

The Hongkong Telegraph

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Humidity 77 70

December 29, 1916. Temperature 6 a.m. 61 2 p.m. 65
Humidity 88 74

7549 日五初月歲十

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916.

五拜禮 號九廿月二十年亥癸

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436 PER ANNUM.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

THE PEACE PROPOSALS.

America and the Allies.

December 28, 2.55 p.m.

According to Reuter's correspondent at New York, the newspapers declare that the United States certainly will not ask the Entente to enter a Peace Conference on the terms proposed by Germany, which are obviously evading the issue.

The Tribune, however, says President Wilson's Note is intended to prevent new German submarine, and asks:—Will he be blackmailed further into endorsing the German proposal for a Peace Conference?

Sweden's Efforts.

December 28, 3.55 p.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Copenhagen says Sweden is seemingly endeavouring to induce other Scandinavian nations to send a joint Note in favour of peace, but Denmark and Norway are hanging back.

What Russia Thinks.

December 28, 5.25 p.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that all the newspapers agree that the Tsar's message to the Allies is the best reply to the German and neutral peace proposals.

The Novoye Vremya says the Tsar's words faithfully reflect the sentiments of the entire Russian people.

THE SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN.

More Vessels Sunk.

December 28, 2.55 p.m.

The steamers Sno (Norwegian) and Friga (Swedish), as well as the sailing ships Agnes (British) and Johan (Danish) have been sunk.

German Seize Norwegian Steamer.

December 28, 5.25 p.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam states that the Germans have taken the Norwegian steamer Aamst, bound for England with a cargo of artificial manure, to Hamburg as a prize.

AWKWARD FOR TURKEY.

Possibilities from Egyptian and Mesopotamian Successes.

December 28, 5.20 p.m.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, the Matin says the British successes in Egypt and Mesopotamia may imperil the Hedjaz Railway and, with the help of India, lead to a systematic attack on Bagdad, thus forcing Turkey to recall important forces from other fronts.

BELGIAN LABOUR.

How Germany Uses It.

December 28, 3.55 p.m.

Reuter learns that the German authorities in Schleswig Holstein are offering farmers and other employers Belgian servants, both men and women, whose ages range between 18 and 38 years. The pay is 30 per cent. below the rate current in the district.

Employers must pay the Government half the travelling expenses, but they are entitled to deduct this from the wages.

WAR STRATEGY.

Expert's Views on Future Plans.

December 29, 5.05 a.m.

The military correspondent of the Times says that in order to gain the necessary superiority on the Western Front in 1917-18 every possible white division from Salonica, Egypt, and Mesopotamia should be withdrawn, the native armies from India and Africa replacing them. In Egypt, the artillery could be provided by the Dominions. The preservation of the Egyptian base intact in as much as the Australian as to the English and Indian interest. Egypt is the ideal offensive base for operations on the Eastern shores of the Mediterranean. The breaking down of the Turkish military power by combined action on the part of the Allies in Armenia, Mesopotamia and Egypt is the best means of accomplishing the investment of the Austro-German armies and checkmating Germany's Eastern moves.

THE GREEK SITUATION.

Allies' Demands Likely to be Conceded.

December 28, 5.20 p.m.

Telegrams from the Piraeus state that the transport of Greek troops to Macedonia is proceeding.

It has been decided that the artillery shall not be sent to Peloponnese until the Allies have formulated their demands.

It is believed that the Greek Government is disposed to comply with the claims of the Allies in order to obtain a raising of the blockade.

AERIAL SUCCESSES IN TURKEY.

December 28, 9.50 p.m.

The Admiralty announces that aeroplanes successfully bombed camps at Galata, while aeroplanes destroyed Chikaldir Bridge, eighteen miles east of Adana.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

THE BALKAN STRUGGLE.

Most Violent Fighting Reported.

December 28, 9.45 p.m.

A Berlin communique records most violent fighting in the wooded Carpathians. The results are not stated. The communique adds:—Strong Russian counter-attacks to regain ground at Rimnical Sarat failed. We further progressed. Over 10,000 prisoners were taken in the fighting at Rimnical Sarat.

British Armoured Cars' Useful Work.

December 28, 10.05 p.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd quotes a communique which states:—Our scouts crossed the Narajarka and drove off the enemy's patrol guard, and carried back construction material and barbed wire entanglements.

The enemy pressed back detachments and occupied a series of heights on the Moldavian frontier.

Enemy attempts to cross the Dniester were checked.

Enemy attacks south of the Dniester were heavily repulsed. British armoured motor-cars participated in beating back the attacks. The enemy was put to flight.

[In the event of telegrams arriving too late for insertion on this page they will be found on an Extra.]

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE PEACE QUESTION.

Germany's Aims Correctly Gauged.

December 28, 2.55 a.m.

French opinion is that the German reply shows that Germany wants a peace which will be wrung from the Allies by a ruse in default of strength to obtain it forcibly. The deceitful machinations justify the Allies' determination to fight on.

SLAVE-TRAINS IN BELGIUM.

Women Fling Themselves on the Track.

The following cable of November 19 to the Chicago Daily News from its London representative gives a vivid account of the slave-raiding methods employed by the Germans in the occupied territories of Belgium and France.

"Germany intends to deport and impress into her labour ranks the whole of Belgium's available manhood," said an American business man to me this morning. This man, whose integrity and judgment are esteemed both in Europe and America, and whose name in due course will be communicated to the editor of the News, reached London after witnessing deportation scenes in Belgium that he describes as "incredible and heartrending."

"Already," he continued, "between 30,000 and 40,000 men have been torn from their homes, forced into cattle-trucks, and conveyed to Germany. In Germany they will be compelled to choose between siding the Central Powers in the war and suffering penalties of the severest nature. Many of them beyond doubt will refuse to work, regarding such labour as treason to their own country, and thus will land themselves in straits too harrowing to think about."

"Unless Germany can be induced to abandon her present policy, between two and three hundred thousand Belgians will be deported. The American Relief Commission has thrown around a hundred thousand Belgians the protection of certificates of employment on relief work, but this hundred thousand is a small part of the total population subject to imprisonment."

"Naturally, the scenes attending the forcible removal of fathers and sons, wives and children, had fought for their menfolk with desperate ferocity—clothes torn, eyes streaming, voices screaming and shouting, and hands raised in protest."

"But this still further argument not only ignores the fact that men are employed in the most degrading manner, but fails to meet the stubbornly refused to work, were tied to trees for 24 hours and more. This punishment failed to break their will, and at last they were released."

"Generally with as little brutality as possible, but always brutally, the Kaiser's soldiers crushed all opposition. Houses were searched by armed men from cellars to roofs. No discrimination was made between employed and unemployed. Only one object plainly was in view, to obtain the largest possible number of strong hands."

"When the train had been loaded the women and children standing about in the huge crowd suddenly ran on the line in front of the locomotive, threw themselves on the rails, and clung there, shutting their eyes and uttering loud lamentations. Detachments of soldiers pressed them loose with bayonets, and forced them clear of the track, when the train moved off towards the German frontier."

"Another distressing feature of the situation in Belgium arises from the forcible importation of Frenchmen from the provinces of France occupied by Germany. It appears that the policy of the German Government is to work the Belgians in Germany and work the Frenchmen in Belgium."

"Incidents of the most painful nature are resulting from the imprisonment of these Frenchmen. Many of them decline to work, declaring, like the Belgians, it is intolerable they should be forced to support a Teutonic war against their own country."

"In one case some 35 Frenchmen, for refusing to work, were tied to trees for 24 hours and more. This punishment failed to break their will, and at last they were released."

"But how can they live? The Germans won't give them a mouthful of food unless they work. The American Relief Commission cannot undertake the feeding of these people, because of its rule denying food to all engaged in warlike action. How this will end God only knows."

"The German authorities have their argument. They assert the Belgians and French in the occupied territories are degenerating from idleness, and claim the best thing for them is to be deported and forced to labour at good wages, and so enabled to preserve their own moral character and send money to their families."

"But this still further argument not only ignores the fact that men are employed in the most degrading manner, but fails to meet the stubbornly refused to work, were tied to trees for 24 hours and more. This punishment failed to break their will, and at last they were released."

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

THE PEACE QUESTION.

The Allies' Reply.

December 28, 1.31 p.m.

The "Daily Telegraph" says that the text of the Allies' reply to Germany has been approved by all the Allies, who make it clear to belligerents and neutrals alike that no hope need be entertained of ever persuading the Allies to surrender a potential victory for the sake of a peace—which would be only a German peace—so long as German militarism is unbroken.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

British Bomb Trenches and Dug-Outs.

December 28, 12.35 a.m.

General Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We searched and bombed a few hundred yards of trenches and dugouts to the north-west of Lens, greatly damaging them without incurring any casualties. Our positions northward of the Somme and near Le Sars were heavily shelled at intervals.

We successfully bombarded defences and trench-mortar emplacements in the neighbourhood of Hulluch and westward of Messines.

There have been a number of air-fights. An enemy aeroplane was destroyed and five damaged. Three of ours are missing.

French Capture Prisoners.

December 28, 1.45 a.m.

A Paris communique states:—There is marked artillery activity in some sectors south of the Somme, where an enemy battery was exploded.

We successfully fired several mines in the region of Beausains, south of the Avre, and then raided the enemy lines, capturing prisoners.

"ARTICLES DE PARIS."

Made in Germany.

Paris, November 1.—"Articles de Paris" used to be Parisian toys or knick-knacks which everybody bought in the confident belief he was helping on the small Parisian artisan exhibition just opened in the Tuilleries undoes us. It consists of a collection of samples in the possession of German commercial travellers in Paris, which was seized at the outbreak of the war. The collection includes specimens of every imaginable so-called "article de Paris," from musical instruments to pocket combs, from cheap jewellery to cheap art porcelain.

German traders imitated everything that the small Parisian artisans made. They sensibly produced souvenirs of every French seaside resort and bathing place with suitable inscriptions, they made dolls with the dress of every French province, and especially Alsatian, paper lanterns with patriotic French inscriptions for July 14, the national fête. They did more. Some time before the war a German commercial traveller went to see a mustard manufacturer at Dijon and offered a tender for mustard pots. The mustard manufacturer, annoyed at being pestered, said: "Deliver me 2,000 mustard pots in the design of a pig with a Prussian helmet, and I will buy them." He thought he had got rid of the German bagman. No at all. Two thousand mustard pots according to specification duly arrived, and he had to buy them. The present exhibition gives the prices at which "articles de Paris" made in Germany were offered by German travellers. They are lower than any Parisian makers could ask, and are also lower, as has been ascertained, than the same goods fetched in Germany. Some such similar exhibition might perhaps be usefully held in London. (Ex.)

difficulty arising from the strong Belgian and French sense of nationality. These spirited people claim that what they are asked to bear is far worse than any slavery. They call it slavery and compulsory active treason.

ENEMY SUBJECTS IN JAPAN.

Some Said to be Acting as Spies.

A Tokyo paper states that in view of the fact that the Allies have decided to prosecute the war until victory is achieved, it has become necessary for the Imperial Government to change its policy toward enemy States and their subjects, and the Foreign Office has been conducting the necessary investigations thereabout. Hitherto (we avail of the Japan Gazette's translation) Japan has given protection to the subjects of enemy States resident within her borders, if they behave themselves. But it has frequently been discovered of late that some of them are carrying on the work of spies and in other ways are doing all they can against the interests of Japan and her Allies. It has also been discovered several times that German and Austrian prisoners of war who have succeeded in escaping from detention camps in Siberia have gone to Shanghai, forged passports and got away to America or other neutral countries by Japanese steamers. Whenever such a thing takes place, the owners of the steamers get into trouble. The Imperial Government has therefore decided to deal first with this latter question, and then take measures in regard to other problems.

The Lyons Fair.

American exhibits at the Lyons Sample Fair promise to be unusually large in number, due to the awakened interest in export trade in the country—and to the unusual opportunity offered to exhibit merchandise to buyers congregated from all parts of the world. The Lyons Fair is strictly a business exhibition, planned for foreign buyers and business men rather than the general public. Samples are shown and demonstrations given to prospective purchasers at the exhibition booths, where orders can be taken for future delivery. The actual retail sale or delivery of any products at the Fair itself is prohibited.

"SOLDIER'S HEART."

Result of Nerve Strain.

Why do soldiers suffer so much from "weak hearts"? The phenomenon has been particularly noticeable during the present war, and a good deal about it has been printed in the medical journals. The doctors do not agree on the cause. Sir James Barr, in an article contributed to American Medicine states his belief that it is due to over-development of the thyroid gland. Other authorities regard its cause as strain of the heart-muscle. Sir James Mackenzie and Dr. Robert D. Radolf, a Canadian military surgeon, believes it to be due to general instability of the circulation, caused by neurasthenia. All agree that the modern methods of warfare are responsible for it. Dr. Radolf gives his views in the Canadian Medical Association Journal and they are epitomized in an editorial appearing in the Medical Record (New York). We read:—"Dr. Radolf points out that soldier's heart, as witnessed at the French front, can hardly be due to strain of the heart-muscle, to which it has been largely attributed, for the reason that trench warfare does not give rise to strain sufficient to damage a previously healthy heart-muscle. On the other hand, the strain to which the nerves are subjected by the mode of warfare in France no doubt has much influence. All kinds of functional nerve-conditions are encountered, including nervous instability of the circulation. The heart and vessels are very largely under the control of the nervous system, and the rate of the pulse is perhaps a better index of the state of this system than anything else. Moreover, as Dr. Radolf points out, when the whole nervous system is under such tension it will yield, if at all, at its weakest point, and the weakest point varies in different individuals. If a person's circulation is his weakest point, then that is where it is most likely to give way. Radolf's conclusions are as follows: The condition called 'soldier's heart' is not an entity, but includes merely the worst examples of a circulatory instability that grades up from the nearly normal to a degree so great that it may completely incapacitate the patient. The circulatory instability has often been there before and is merely brought into prominence or exaggerated by the unusual physical and mental surroundings of a soldier's life. The very same condition occurs, only more rarely, in civil life. In many cases the condition appears to be caused or precipitated by infection, also by nerve-shock or strain."

In conclusion, the writer remarks that the question is of very considerable importance, as the irritable heart occurs more or less frequently in civil life. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the problem will be solved in the near future.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

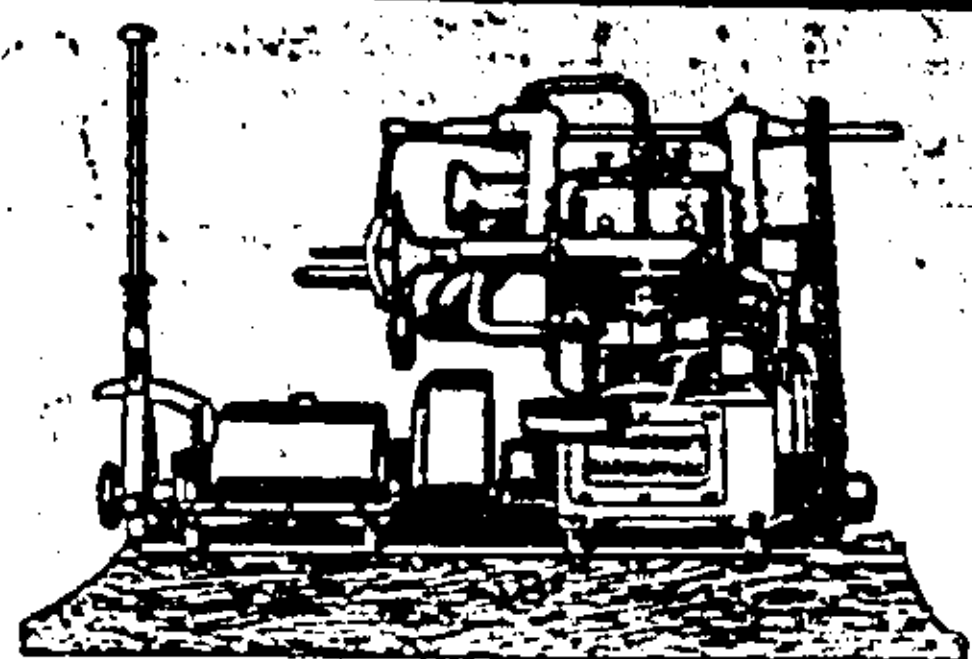
TO-MORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

Saturday, January 6.

City Hall—9.15 p.m.
Night

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a sufferer for many years, will, if taken
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Hongkong, 16th August, 1916.

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to pass Chinese examinations, and is possessed
of a first rate certificate as a Chinese teacher.
He has also a good knowledge of Mandarin
and Cantonese.
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SOLE AGENTS

GENERAL NEWS.

U. S. Troops and Mexico.
Washington, December 19.—
Sixteen thousand militiamen now
on duty on the Mexican border
have just been designated for
withdrawal by the U. S. War
Department; but it is officially
announced that this move does
not foreshadow the withdrawal of
the regulars under General Persh-
ing, already on Mexican soil. It
is apparently planned to keep a
considerable number of the
National Guard still on federal
service, in spite of the present
move, this being indicated by the
fact that the Secretary for War
has just asked Congress for funds
to be expended in the support of
dependent families of guardsmen
on duty. This request is based
on an assumption that there will
be 75,000 National Guardsmen
still in the federal service next
July.

Petrol Supply Problem.

In an article by Mr. Albert
Liddett in the *Petroleum World*,
tending to show that both present
and future supplies of motor
spirit are ample for all purposes,
the writer refers to the Far
Eastern supply. "Then there are
the prolific territories of the Far
East, which always have been
associated with the production
of Shell motor spirit. Here the
supplies of motor spirit are
as great as, if not even
greater than, they ever
have been in the past, but
one must not be unduly
of the difficulties which now attend
the necessary coast transport from
these far away fields. For some
time, in fact, coast transport was
almost out of the question, and
the result was that the United
Kingdom for several weeks did
not receive a single shipment from
this quarter. The same difficul-
ties, too, occurred in regard to
supplies from the United States,
but fortunately these were not
nearly so pronounced as in the case
of shipments from the Far East."

Freak Bets.

The incidence of the Presi-
dential election recalls the tenacity
of our American friends to wager
"freak" bets, says a Home paper.
On this side of the Atlantic we
are content with betting to "eat
our heads," or our "hats," on the
result of a given contest. In
New York a man is more
disposed to bet that if, for in-
stance, President Wilson is
returned he will trundle his
contestant along Broadway in a
wheelbarrow, or if, on the other
hand, Mr. Hughes is sent to the
White House the said contestant
will undertake to shave only one
side of his face for the ensuing
twelve months. If Mr. Roosevelt
had been a candidate we might
possibly have heard of somebody's
willingness to wear for a given
period a particularly loud, phoek
suit on which pieces the size of
half quarter loaves could beaped.
We take these bets as evidence of
the practical American spirit.

War Charities.

The sum of £50,000,000 was
subscribed to War Charity funds
during the first two years of the
war, including donations from
the Dominions and Colonies.
The total includes £20,000,000
for the relief of distress and the
re-establishment of men return-
ing to civil life, £8,000,000
for sick and wounded,
£8,000,000 for comforts, and
£10,000,000 for assistance
to Allies. On November 1st, the
Prince of Wales' National
Fund totalled £5,000,000, of
which three-fifths have been
spent, chiefly in meeting the
soldier allowances of which the
War Office has delayed payment.
The Comforts Fund includes
£1,600,000 spent by the Y.M.C.A.
the Church Army and Salvation
Army for the entertainment of
fighting men in training camps
and abroad. The sum of
£8,000,000 was collected for
Belgian relief. Half of this sum
has been spent by the Neutral
Commission in Belgium and
£2,000,000 has been spent in
feeding, clothing and lodging
Belgian refugees in Britain.

For a good solid meal a la
Carte or Table d'Hôte with
Wines & Liquors of the Best
ALEXANDRA CAFE.

NOTICES.

NOTICES.

[illegible]

NOTE THE ADDRESS. **OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN**
28, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

NOTE THE ADDRESS: **4, D'Aguilar Street.**

JUST RECEIVED AN ENORMOUS STOCK OF ENGLISH GOLD AND SILVER WARE.
Great Stock of Xmas Presents Just Arrived.

Obtainable from all Chemists etc.

THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA'S steamer, s.s. "**TO-KAI MARU**," will be despatched by the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, for Japan; Honolulu, San Francisco, Mexico and Central and South American Ports, on **FRIDAY**, the 19th January, at Noon.

For information regarding freight etc, kindly apply to the undersigned.

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Agent, The Toyo Kisen Kaisha,
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WE are the leading Manufacturers in this class of Goods. Our Fruit & Vegetables are all fresh and of the finest quality. Our Syrup is prepared from the best quality of Sugar. We give our special attention to the business and sanitary requirements.

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OFFICE: No. 24, Des Voeux Road, W.
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WE are the leading Manufacturers in
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Biscuits are all Fresh and of the first pick.
Our Syrup is prepared from the best
quality of Sugar. We give our special
attention to the business and sanitary
arrangements.

FOR SALE.—One 10½ B.H.P. Hornsby Ackroyd Oil Engine complete with and coupled direct to one 6 K.W. Continuous Current Shunt Wound Dynamo to 50/70 volts with shunt regulator. ALSO One Switchboard for Accumulator Dynamo, &c., complete with instruments for 100 Amps. For further particulars apply to Messrs. Linstead & Davis Alexanders Buildings.
Hongkong 15th September, 1915

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No. 16, Queen's Road, Central
Liquidator.

(1) That the capital of the Company be reduced from \$4,000,000 (Four million dollars) divided into 400,000 (Four hundred thousand)

FRENCH FIRE PROOF CHINA.

MASPERO FRERES

HOTEL MANSIONS.

The Grasco-Egyptian Tobacco Store has always in Stock, from all high class Egyptian Cigarette manufactories, fresh stocks, such as Nestor Giannakis N. D. Toccos, M. Melachrinio, Dimitrino, Simon Aris, Messero Freres Tolmas Specials, Laherwood Brothers, Wesminster B, ocials, etc.

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W. G. HUMPHREYS & CO.

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GILBEY'S SPEY-ROYAL SCOTCH WHISKY.

Is Guaranteed to be made from Pure Malted Barley
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Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides. All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor. Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

The rates of Subscription to the "Hongkong Telegraph" will be as follows:—Daily issue—\$26 per annum. Weekly issue—\$13 per annum.

The rates per quarter and per mensem, proportional. Subscriptions for any period less than one month will be charged as for a full month.

The daily issue is delivered free when the addressee is accessible to messenger. Peak subscribers can have their copies delivered at their residences without any extra charge. On copies sent by post an additional \$1.80 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is \$1.00 per quarter.

Single Copies, Daily, ten cents. Weekly, twenty-five cents (for cash only).

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

(Payable in Advance.)

The "Hongkong Telegraph" is now on sale at, and will be delivered to subscribers by, the Dairy Farm Company, Ltd., Shamshing, Canton, who have been appointed our agents there.

By Order, "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916.

MATTERS OF IMPERIAL MOMENT.

In the ordinary sense, there will be no Imperial Conference in the coming year, but, as will have been gathered from a telegram to hand on Wednesday, an assembly of representatives of the Empire is to meet early in 1917 to deal with issues larger and more important than any which have yet engaged the attention of the Empire's statesmen. In short, there is to be a special War Conference of the Empire, the members of which will comprise the present War Cabinet plus the Dominion Premiers and Indian representatives. That Conference will be in continuous session for the purpose of deliberating on war problems, with special reference to the prosecution of the struggle and the possible conditions to be arranged, in agreement with the Allies, when the time comes to consider peace. It will therefore be seen that the coming meeting between the heads of the Empire will possess a great Imperial significance, and, what is more, will ensure unanimity of action on matters vitally affecting all parts of the King's dominions.

Assurances had long since been given that in the arranging of peace terms the self-governing Colonies would be fully consulted and given every facility for an expression of their opinions. That, remembering the magnificent manner in which they have rallied to the cause, was only just and reasonable. But we are glad to see that the National Government is prepared to go a step farther, not merely listening to the voice of the Dominions when peace terms are under consideration, but taking the statesmen of Empire into its confidence now in regard to the actual conduct of the war. That is a wise and laudable act of statesmanship, showing that the Home Government is prepared to lay all its cards on the table and to keep nothing back from those who represent parts of the Empire whose peoples have made tremendous sacrifices for the Motherland in the fight for freedom. This policy, we have no doubt, will be fully appreciated by the Dominions concerned, and will serve to tighten the bonds by which all parts of the Empire are bound together at this critical time in our history. In considering the peace questions, it may be taken for granted that the post-war policy of Britain and her Allies in regard to trade will come up for decision. It is here that the Crown Colonies, and Hongkong among them, have a direct interest in the issues. It may not be practicable for these Colonies to be represented at the Conference, but it should surely be possible for arrangements to be made whereby their views will be taken into account in matters in which they have a very lively and direct concern.

There are two questions in this latter connection upon which Hongkong should rightly claim to be heard. One is the policy to be followed concerning the return of German traders to our shores after the war, and the other that of enemy trade marks. On the latter of these, the considered advice of the mercantile community has been ignored by the authorities, but, in regard to the former, no pronouncement has been made by either one side or the other. The local Government is probably on good ground when it argues in the one case, as it would, we may presume, in the other also—that Hongkong will have to fall in line with general Imperial policy on these matters. But that surely should not prevent Hongkong from endeavouring to influence that policy. The business men of the Colony know the local conditions, and we sincerely hope that some channel may be provided through which their representations on these important issues may find their way to the men who will take a leading part in drafting the Empire's post-war trade and economic plans.

The Old, Old Question.

A correspondent wrote us on Wednesday on the spitting evil in Hongkong, with special reference to the theatre. We wonder how long he has been in Hongkong. Our Government intimates—and for once in a way we are able to agree with it—that spitting among the Chinese is a very difficult practice to stop. But having enunciated this great truth, our Government proceeds to sit down on its hunkers and do nothing towards attempting to stop the evil in question. Can the theatre managers be blamed greatly if they wait for the authorities to make some move? We grant that it is highly desirable that notices regarding spitting should be placed in theatres, shops etc., and we regret to have to point out that it has been left to a Chinese firm to post warnings about its premises against the practice. But, until the Government bestir itself, we have little hope of seeing any alteration. In New York, a city with ten or twelve times the population of Hongkong, notices are placed in the streets, and anyone found spitting is promptly fined. But Hongkong's streets remain what they always were. Two or three years' steady police and magisterial work would put an end to the trouble. But we do not feel particularly hopeful that such measures will be taken in the near future. Meanwhile it may interest our good neighbour the Telephone Company to know that, at intervals during the day, a fair percentage of its Chinese staff is in the habit of strolling out on to the verandah and refreshingly exhorting down into Leobach Street, regardless of passers-by.

Press and Public.

One great improvement in Hongkong life which may be recorded with pleasure is the marked alteration in the attitude of the public towards the local press. We remember a time when it was customary for certain business houses, Government Departments and individuals to regard a newspaper man as a rather bad creature between a beach-comber and a burglar, or as one whose duty it was to approach by the back stairs and very much on tip-toe. Indeed more than once it has happened that an Oxford or a Cambridge man, with a decent literary record behind him, has been kept standing while some junior clerk from Peckham patronisingly and grudgingly provided him with the information he required. This kind of insolence is rarely observable nowadays in the business houses, though there are still one or two Government officials whose sense of importance makes them oblivious of the common courtesies of life. One is glad to be able to add that civility is the rule in the Government offices nowadays, even though sections of the administration may labour under the delusion that British newspapers can be dictated to at will.

Interesting Survivals.

If journalists in Hongkong still have a "kick" it is on account of the slackness observed at certain public meetings etc. in regard to the giving out of printed or typed copy of reports. An instance of this, we are informed, occurred in connection with the distribution of prizes last night at St. Paul's College. To begin with, at least one paper received no invitation at all. In the second place, only one of the morning papers received a copy of the Headmaster's Report, which meant that the representative of the other morning paper must needs wait for his copy till the Report had been read. Thirdly, all the reporters were kept waiting till about ten o'clock for a list of the prize-winners. We do not suggest that there was any intentional discourtesy here; it was simply a survival of the old Hongkong idea that a newspaper's time is of no consequence. It reminds us, in fact, of a telephone conversation which we once had with a very exalted Hongkong official who, when we observed that a certain piece of news would have to be withheld on account of our publishing at four o'clock, sagely observed: "But wouldn't it be better if you were to publish at six o'clock? You would have more news then."

DAY BY DAY.

A WOMAN SELDOM MAKES UP HER MIND TO DO A THING. SHE ACTS ON IMPULSE AND MAKES UP HER MIND AFTERWARDS.

The Malls.
Sibeian Mail (Dec. 1, London)
—Due per s.s. Chenan tomorrow.
English Mail.—Closed per s.s. Novara still a.m. to-day.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 4.13/16d.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the 51st birthday of Mr. Rudyard Kipling.

Hongkong Theatre.
There will be a special matinee at the Hongkong Theatre on New Year's Day at 4 p.m.

A Missing Foreman.
Five Chinese clerks of the P. W. D. yesterday gave their pay cheques to a foreman named T. Yan to cash at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for them. The foreman cashed the cheques but has not been seen since. The total value of the cheques was \$358.

Failure to Notify.
Two men were charged before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court to-day, with failing to report a case of small-pox, which occurred at 22, Balkeley Street, Hongkong. The first defendant, father of the child, assumed all responsibility and was fined \$50, the other man being discharged.

No Appearance.
At the Magistrate's court this morning, before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, a case was called in which a Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of a revolver and 100 rounds of ammunition. The man was a passenger on the s.s. Ecuador, which had just arrived from America. Defendant did not appear, and the bail of \$250 was estimated.

The last performance of "Kismet" takes place to-morrow night at 7.30 p.m. and an after-theatre supper will be served at the Hongkong Hotel Grill Room at the conclusion of the performance. The theatre booking plan will be available at the Hongkong Hotel from 2 to 5 p.m. as Montre's will be closed after 1 p.m. to-morrow.

Village Robbery.
An armed robbery has been reported to the Police from the little village of Tai Po Tin, in the New Territories. The story is that a woman was alone in her house, and that at night two men broke in and, having gagged her and threatened to kill her if she made any noise, took away with them all her money, about \$18, and clothing valued at \$2.

New Motor House Boat.
Messrs. W. S. Bailey and Co., Ltd., have built for the Asiatic Petroleum Company a shallow draft motor house boat to augment the Company's fleet of these vessels in the Canton delta. The new vessel is named "Yung Kong," and is 61 feet in length, fitted with the usual accommodation, and driven by a twin set of 26 horse-power Kelvin motors giving a speed of 8.65 knots per hour.

The Old, Old Story.
The excuse put forward by a Chinese who was charged before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court this morning, with hawking without a licence at Yau-mat and offering a 12-cent bribe to the constable, was that he had only been in the Colony a few days, and did not know the laws. Sergeant Wills stated that unlicensed hawkers in Yau-mat were becoming a pest. His Worship imposed fines of \$2 and \$5.

Revenue Officer Charged.
Yesterday a Chinese Revenue Officer, whilst at Kowloon, saw a junk discharging charcoal, and enquired of the master if he had a permit. He stated that he had not, and it is alleged that the Revenue Officer demanded \$10 to say nothing about it. He was eventually given two dollars and the junk master, seeing a constable, told him about it. The constable quickly arrested the officer, who was seen to throw some money into the harbour. The efforts of a small boy diver were responsible for 85 cents being recovered. The officer was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, when the case was adjourned.

ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE.

Distribution of Prizes.

There was a very large gathering of pupils, parents and friends at St. Paul's College last evening, on the occasion of the annual prize distribution. The playing ground was nicely decorated, and prior to the distribution a musical programme was given by the students.

The distribution was made by His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry May, K. C. M. G.), and among those present were the Bishop of Victoria, Mrs. Lander, and the Misses Lander.

The Head Master, the Rev. A. D. Stewart, read the annual report, out of which we take the following:—The past year, the eighth of this school's existence, has been very similar to past years. We have gone quietly along our way with much to encourage us and little to trouble. The most important event in the school year is always the annual Local Examination in July. This year's results were, for us, as satisfactory as those of past years. In the Senior division three passed out of five, all getting Distinction: Wong Yee But in Religious Knowledge, Lai Man Tung in Mathematics, and Pan Lok Tin in Chinese. In the Junior division fifteen passed out of twenty-two, three obtaining Distinction: Ip Si Cheong in three subjects, Religious Knowledge, Arithmetic, and Book-keeping, and Li Kai Fai and Tsang Hin Sung in Arithmetic. The most satisfactory feature of these results was that, of the twenty-seven who entered there was not a single failure in English Composition, and only two failed in the English section. Only those who have gone through the mill of teaching the intricacies of English Composition to the Oriental mind can fully appreciate our satisfaction.

The enrolment has again been the highest possible number. Both at the New Year and in September the limit number was not only reached, but a considerable number were refused admission on both occasions. Besides these we have the three lowest classes in the Hostel, and also a Junior school in Hollywood Road, making a total of over 500 boys, divided into twenty classes. For these we have a staff of thirty-four teachers. At the same time I should like to point out that these schools are self-supporting, paying everything except the salary of the Principal. In the sphere of sports several encouraging points may be recorded. In the Athletic Sports we were again second in the Relay Race, this being the fourth time we have had that position. The most encouraging side of our work has been not in the intellectual nor the athletic, but in the moral sphere, for development of character is, above all else, the supreme aim of this school. The knowledge that we are sending out from year to year Christian men who are putting the uplift of their country before all personal considerations, who are seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness rather than worldly advancement, brings to us a deeper satisfaction than any success in the examination hall, or on the football field, can bring. We are not afraid to let it be known that such things are counted of but minor importance in this school as compared with that knowledge which is of vital importance, the knowledge of Him whom to know is life eternal.

H.E. the Governor said it was a great pleasure to visit St. Paul's, particularly as it afforded him an opportunity of saying goodbye and wishing a safe journey and return to Mr. Stewart who was going to Ireland on leave. St. Paul's College was founded by the Rev. O. Staunton as a training college for clergy shortly after the founding of the Colony. It had a long history, but it had never had a better record than during the past eight years under the Headmastership of Mr. Stewart. The Government always watched the College with interest, as it was one of the chief sources of supply of students to the University.

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO S.B. CO.

Appointment of Marine Superintendent.

It is understood that the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Company has appointed a superintendent to the line, whose duties will commence with the New Year. The officer chosen for the post is a young skipper who has been in Company's employ for some few years: Captain A. Connor. Captain Connor, prior to joining the Steamboat Company, was an officer in the service of the Orient Line, and, within the past four years, has been successively chief officer of the Honam, master of the Nanning and master of the San Oi. The latter command he has just vacated in order to enter upon his new appointment. He went through the Boer War as a trooper of the Imperial Yeomanry, and holds the South African medal with three clasps. He also holds the Royal Humane Society's silver medal and vellum, for life-saving on the West River in March 1913. His many friends in the Colony and in Canton will wish him all success in his new undertaking.

THE POLICE RESERVE.

Orders Issued To-day.

The following orders are issued to-day by Mr. F. C. Jenkins, D.S.P. (Reserve):—Parades Central 5.30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2.—Maxim Gunners. Wednesday, Jan. 3.—All Recruits. Thursday, Jan. 4.—Ambulance Platoons under the Sergeant Major. Friday, Jan. 5.—Mounted Police (at Stables, 5.15 p.m.) Band. Practice—Wednesday, January 3, 6 p.m.

Police School Headquarters Club 5.30 p.m. Office III (Inspector Gerrard)—Friday, January 5, and Thursday, January 11. Staff Class (Chief Inspector Kerr)—Thursday, January 4, and each Thursday during January. To be attended by all Superintendents and Chief Inspectors. Also by Staff Inspectors Hewitt, Accelli, and Potter, Musketry Sergeant Fisher and Sergeant Accountant Beles; also by Inspector Lamont. This class may be attended by any other Company Inspector on submitting his name to this effect.

Ambulance Patrols. After reporting at Central Station each night, patrolmen will proceed at once to the Tang Wah Hospital for vaccination duties. They will report off duty at Central as usual. Defuncts' Drill. Members awarded D.D. will parade at Central Station at 4.30 p.m. on Saturday next, Dec. 30. Staff Inspector Clarke will take charge.

The following were the principal prize-winners:—Form VI.—Wong Yee But and Li Kai Fai. Form Va.—Li Kai Fai and Lai Shu Fan. Form Vb.—J. Choy, Lai Shu San, Tsang Tin On; Commercial Class.—Li Ping Choi, To Ding Hau, Leung Kwong Choi; Upper IVa.—Cheng Hok Ling, Cheung Kang Fai; Upper IVb.—Li U Hau, Chau Kwok Wing; Lower IVa.—Chung Kang Fai, Lau Tsun Ki; Lower IVb.—Chau Kwok Wing, Chan Hon. IIIa.—Loh Bis Man, Ho Chi Hang; IIIb.—Leung In Sing, Cheung Sai, Fung; IIIc.—Li Kai Yu; IId.—U Wing Chan; Wan; So Ka Hong; IId.—Lo Kin Ohak, Li Kai Yu; I—Ng Pak In, U Bing Qu; Ib.—Lo Lok Ring, Tam Chin Kwong. Mathematical: Set 1.—Ng Ka Wing; Set 2.—Tao Ki Chung, Ho Hin Fong; Set 3.—To Wa Ben, Ho Ka Lun; Set 4.—Ho Ka Lun, Chin Wing On; Set 5.—Tsang Shui Lam, Li Ping Suen; Set 6.—Chan Chik Fai, Pak Cheuk Wa; Set 7.—Lai Ping Lan, Lam Ping Sang.

Chung U Kong was presented with a cup for eight years unbroken attendance.

TRAMWAY TROUBLES.

Assault Charge Against a Conductor.

A tramcar conductor was the defendant in an assault case at the Police Court this morning, a passenger appearing to give evidence against him, with his head liberally swathed in bandages.

The story told by the complainant was that he was at Causeway Bay and gave the conductor ten cents, asking for five cents change. The conductor refused to give him the change, and then struck him a severe blow on the head with his ticket-punching machine.

Defendant said he was first assaulted. He was putting the trolley boom of the car on to another wire when the complainant came up behind him and struck him, which caused the pole being used to fall and strike the man on the head.

Trooper Sergeant Soull, of the Police Reserve, spoke to being in Kennedy Stables and hearing angry shouts. On going out, he saw the complainant bleeding very freely from a wound on the head.

After hearing the evidence, Mr. J. R. Wood discharged defendant.

VOLUNTEER RESERVES.

Orders for the Coming Week.

Order No. 107, issued to-day by Major Wakeman, Commanding H.K.V.R., states:—Detail.

On duty from the morning of Sunday, the 31st December, to the morning of Sunday, 7th January, "B" Coy. H. K. V. R. Orderly Officer, 2nd. Lieut. C. W. Borswick. Next for duty, H. K. V. O. Parades.

Monday, 1st January, nil. Tuesday, 2nd January:—The following members of "A" and "B" Coes will parade at Blake Pier at 3.30 p.m. for musketry (Dress: drill order):—Ptes. G. A. Hastings, J. Grant, A. Cavalier, A. Blythe, H. H. Taylor, S. M. Mayer, O. W. Olson, W. Logan, D. McMurray, W. S. Glendinning, J. M. Ramsey, O. Crispin, R. J. Dixon. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables at 4.45 p.m. under Instructor Q. M. Sergeant Talbot. Dress: Drill order. Semaphore Class at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Lee-Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigues.

Wednesday, 3rd January:—The following members of "A" and "B" Coes will parade at Blake Pier at 3.30 p.m. for musketry (Dress: drill order):—Ptes. G. A. Hastings, J. Grant, A. Cavalier, A. Blythe, H. H. Taylor, S. M. Mayer, O. W. Olson, W. Logan, D. McMurray, W. S. Glendinning, J. M. Ramsey, O. Crispin, R. J. Dixon. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables at 4.45 p.m. under Instructor Q. M. Sergeant Talbot. Dress: Drill order. Signalling Section at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Lee-Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigues. Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergeant Bowles. Dress: Clean fatigues.

Thursday, 4th January:—The following members of "A" and "B" Coes will parade at Blake Pier at 3.30 p.m. for musketry (Dress: drill order):—Ptes. G. A. Hastings, J. Grant, A. Cavalier, A. Blythe, H. H. Taylor, S. M. Mayer, O. W. Olson, W. Logan, D. McMurray, W. S. Glendinning, J. M. Ramsey, O. Crispin, R. J. Dixon. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables at 4.45 p.m. under Instructor Q. M. Sergeant Talbot. Dress: Drill order. Signalling Section at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. under Signalling Instructor Lee-Opl. G. Lloyd. Dress: Clean fatigues. Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5 p.m. under Instructor Sergeant Bowles. Dress: Clean fatigues.

Friday, 5th January:—"A" Coy. on the road outside the Law Courts at 4.45 p.m. Dress: Drill order.

Strength. Two O.M. Wilson having joined is allotted Corps No. 681 and posted to Coy. "A" Platoon No. 1, Section 3 (Signaller). Reversion. No. 345. Loc. Opl. P.D. Sutherland reverts to the ranks at his own request and is posted to Coy. "B" Platoon No. VI, Section 2.

A YEAR'S TRADE.

HONGKONG'S MARKETS IN 1916.

A REVIEW OF SOME OF THE COLONY'S COMMERCIAL DEALINGS.

Trade in Hongkong during the year just drawing to a close has been affected by a variety of unusual conditions—the war, the unrest in South China, and the fluctuations in exchange, to mention only a few—but on the whole, the twelve months may be written down as fairly satisfactory. In some lines, great prosperity has been experienced, while in others it has been a trying year all through. In all branches, the complex and uncertain conditions prevailing have caused a deal of anxiety to be felt, and have called for the exercise of sound judgment. Below we give brief reviews of the year's operations in some of the principal trades, and we hope later to publish a few other reports.

Piece Goods.

The past year as regards piece goods has not provided any outstanding features. The cash basis in this business, which was inaugurated in 1915, has worked very well during the year, and it is to be sincerely hoped that the German, who were responsible for the long credit system, will be still kept out of the market after the war. Supplies have been very restricted, and prices were continually advancing. There was not a great deal of business to be done in Fancies, as deliveries from Home were very irregular and importers have had many problems to contend with. The demand for greys and whites continues very slack, owing to the lack of dye. In regard to fancy goods, it is satisfactory to note that British dyes have been making some headway during the year, and importers have been gratified at receiving some samples and shipments, showing that British manufacturers can put on the market a very good substitute for the goods previously dyed with German colours.

Woollens.

The very high prices obtaining for woollens have prevented the doing of much business throughout the year, and consequently a much smaller turnover has been experienced. It is to be feared that whilst the war is in progress there will be no great improvement, though as soon as the great necessities of the military are ended, all hope that the old trade will revive again.

Sundries.

Generally known as the "Muck and Truck Trade," the demand in sundries has been greatly met by Japanese and native made articles, which are supplying the wants formerly satisfied to a great extent by Germany. Generally speaking British houses at Home have been too busy engaged on war work to supply local requirements, but, in spite of this fact, one or two manufacturers have risen to the occasion and sent supplies. All things considered, quite a good show has been put up. There were no floods or typhoons during the year to upset the market, and one would have been led to expect a better trade all round than has prevailed. The tremendous rise in the rate of exchange and the unsettled state of the silver market has had an adverse effect on the trade, though it is difficult to conceive what would have happened if the exchange had not risen in sympathy with the high prices prevailing at Home. There would, doubtless, have been much less business transacted because prices would have been out of all reach. As it is the corresponding rise has enabled native firms to purchase in certain lines.

Liquidations.

The liquidation of enemy firms has dragged on through the year, but they are practically all finished now. We understand that there are very few goods left in the hands of liquidators, and that only small matters now remain to be adjusted.

Machinery and Motors.

From the British point of view, the machinery and motor business has been very much restricted owing to the inability of British firms to supply goods. What business has been done has been mainly in American products. The number of motors and motor cycles to be seen on the roads of the Colony has greatly increased during the twelve months under review, and it is a pity that during such a time of trade growth and increased demand the British manufacturers should have been unable to compete on anything like equal terms.

Import and Export Permits.

There can be little doubt that the new Import and Export permits which have now to be obtained are causing a great deal more work for firms, who are none too heavily staffed as it is, and it is to be hoped that after the war matters will be simplified. A suggestion has been made that importers and exporters of good standing in the Colony might be allowed to furnish the Department with monthly returns instead of having to send backwards and forwards between the Harbour Office—which is none too centrally placed—and their own premises. To many firms it has meant increasing their native staff, and the delays that are experienced are apt to be annoying. It has been mentioned that the obtaining of permits will continue after the war, so that some port statistics can be compiled, but the same end would be gained if firms of repute were allowed to send in monthly returns, instead of the present vexatious daily visits.

Indian Cotton Yarn.

Messrs. Polishwalla and Kowall report as follows:—In our review for 1915, we drew attention to the steady shrinkage of Indian yarn imports into China, which had been progressively decreasing year by year. We find that in the course of the past year, so less an authority than the Chairman of the Bank of Bombay took occasion to sound a note of warning upon the same subject. In addressing the shareholders at the last annual meeting of the Bank, the chairman made the following statement:—"Exports of Indian yarns to China are on the wane, and our goods are steadily being supplanted by indigenous and Japanese makes." In 1905 we exported 951,870 bales, against 358,777 in 1915. This year, owing to scarcity of freight, shipments will be still smaller. It remains to be seen whether this warning will be heeded, and what steps the millowners in India will take to remedy this alarming shrinkage in their hitherto best market, China. Arrivals during this year amounted to 128,850 bales. Sales aggregated 141,800 bales, which constitute an increase on last year, partially due to Japanese mills being well engaged in other fields under the exceptional circumstances prevailing. Doubtless this lessened competition from Japan is only temporary. In making a survey of the past twelve months, it is gratifying to record that both importers and dealers alike have been able to achieve eminently satisfactory results. During the earlier part of the year the dealers had to contend with violent fluctuations in exchange, which made it unsafe for them to operate on any extended scale. In the early part of May, however, the sudden slump in silver coupled with some slight demand from the consuming districts, put a little life into the market. This recovery, however, was to prove but a flash in the pan, as just then, the various political factions in and around Canton began to assert themselves, pointing to unmistakable signs of impending disturbances, and the dealers were in consequence at once notified to suspend all shipments to Kwangtung. What really saved this market from utter collapse at this time was the demand from Yunnan, which province cleared off quite a good slice of our stocks during June. Matters continued to drift in this fashion until well on towards the third quarter of the year. In the meantime, cotton was soaring upwards, while cable advices were

daily reaching Hongkong that Bombay exporters were making large and heavy purchases. Nevertheless, the dealers remained immovable, and it was not until October, when they felt assured that some order has been evolved out of the prevailing political chaos in Canton, that they shook off their lethargy and entered the market in real earnest. And this proved to be their salvation, as it was not many weeks thereafter that the price of cotton touched the highest point of the year, viz. 12-50, when it would have been too late for the local buyers to derive any benefit from the unprecedented advance of American cotton. As we have said, both importers and dealers should show substantial balances on the credit side on the year's trade results, the price of cotton, the controlling factor, having reached a higher point than that touched during the American Civil War. Closing prices as compared with those of 1915 are appended below:—10s, 1916, \$112/133; 1915, \$90/105. 20s, 1916, \$135/170; 1915, \$115/130.

Messrs. Setna and Company report as follows:—During the early part of the current year, owing to political trouble in Canton and the adjacent consuming districts, our yarn market ruled rather weak, and limited business was reported. From June of the current year some confidence was restored amongst Chinese merchants and dealers, and business began to revive, and high prices in India of cotton, coupled with a demand from the interior and consuming districts, with strong attitude shown by the importers, had the effect of strengthening the market, and prices advanced all round. Business during the current year was reported equal to that of 1915.

Japanese Yarn.

Messrs. Setna and Company report that during the year a good business was reported in the market. Prices showed a good advance, and sales were reported of 25,300 bales, comprising 700 bales of No. 10s, 2,825 bales of No. 16s, and 21,775 of No. 20s, as under:—13,100 bales of Kishiwada (Yellow "Joss") No. 20s at \$120 to \$187; 5,500 bales of Nagasaki No. 20s at \$123 to \$182; 3,175 bales of Setna No. 20s at \$128 to \$170; 2,825 bales of Kishiwada (Three Horses) No. 16s at \$120 to \$186; 700 bales of Setna No. 10s at \$111 to \$125.

Opium.

In their annual report, Messrs. Setna and Company report as follows:—Nothing to report in the current year, 1916. No business transacted. Old stock was estimated at about 412 chests of Patna opium, 219 chests of Benares opium, 327 chests of Malwa opium, and 117 chests of Persian and Turkish opium, in all about 1,075 chests. Arrivals (as reported) during the current year, about 48 chests of Patna opium, 4 chests of Benares opium, and 841 chests of Persian and Turkish opium, in all about 691 chests. Exports during the current year to Shanghai, East Coast ports, Macao, Canton, and West Coast, including local consumption, are reported of about 72 chests of Patna opium, 70 chests of Benares opium, 109 chests of Malwa opium, and 734 chests of Persian and Turkish opium, in all about 985 chests. Stock is estimated at about 386 chests of Patna opium, 153 chests of Benares opium, 218 chests of Malwa opium, and 24 chests of Persian and Turkish opium; in all about 781 chests.

Exchange.

Messrs. Setna and Company, reporting under date of the 29th inst., state:—During the current year, exchange ruled firm, and rates showed an advance in the middle of the period, and again began to decline. Towards the end, that is from 8-p.m., it again revived. Following is the table of rates of exchange on London (highest as well as lowest) during the year:—

	Lowest.	Highest.
January	1-11	1-11
February	1-11	1-11 5/16
March	1-11	2-0
April	2-0	2-2
May	2-0	2-4
June	2-0	2-4
July	1-11	2-1
August	2-1	2-1 1/2
September	2-1	2-2
October	2-1	2-2
November	2-2	2-3
December	2-3	2-4

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

POULTRY.

OUR
HOUSE FED CAPONS
AND
CHICKENS
ARE THE BEST IN THE EAST.
TENDER EATING, DELICATE
FLAVOUR—TRY THEM.

CRICKET.

K. C. C. 1st v. Civil Service.

To be played at Happy Valley on Saturday at 2.15 p.m. The Kowloon team will be:—J. P. Robinson, B. D. Evans, K. McLennan, W. H. Stapleton, E. J. Edwards, J. O. Fletcher, H. Overy, W. T. Eason, A. O. Brown, J. V. Braga, and A. R. F. Egan.

K.C.C. 2nd v. 83 Coy. R.G.A.

To be played at Kowloon at 2.15 p.m. on Saturday. The home team will be:—D. J. Mackenzie, W. L. Weaver, C. J. Stapleton, F. Travers, A. R. Silkestone, H. S. Rouse, O. Woodman, L. Gray, W. Kay, J. Balston, and J. M. Jack.

Craigengower v. R. G. A.

The following will represent Craigengower against the R. G. A. tomorrow on the Craigengower ground, commencing at 2.15 p.m.:—R. G. Southerton, R. Bass, R. Pestonji, S. Jax, J. D. Norris, D. K. Kharas, B. W. Bradbury, R. O. Witobell, G. F. Thompson, A. Mann, and F. Schnepel.

Craigengower v. University.

On New Year's Day, against the University, commencing at 10.15 a.m., the Craigengower team will be selected from:—L. A. Rose, R. G. Southerton, R. Bass, R. Pestonji, S. Jax, D. K. Kharas, R. O. Witobell, G. F. Thompson, A. Mann, B. W. Bradbury, J. D. Norris, F. Schnepel, and M. Abbas. Tiffin will be served in the pavilion at 1 p.m.

R. E. v. University.

The following will represent the University in the above match tomorrow at 1.45 p.m. on the military ground:—Ng Sze kwong, B. Ponsonby Fane, K. Brayshaw, G. E. Marley, J. D. Wright, A. H. Bumsjohn, D. P. Dixon, A. de Souza, Chow Yat-cheong, W. Hall, W. Gittins.

The Rest v. Kowloon.

The following will represent the Rest v. Kowloon on the K. C. C. ground, on Monday, January 1, at 10 a.m.:—T. E. Pearce, B. Brand, G. E. Marley, F. de Rome, R. O. Witobell, A. O. Brown, E. Mitchell, F. Redmond, E. W. Hamilton, F. Sutton, R. E. O. Bird.

R.H.K. GOLF CLUB.

Banker's Cup—Corrected Result.

We are requested to state that the correct results of the Bogy Competition for the Banker's Cup, played at Fanling on the 23rd, 24th and 25th inst., are as follows:—
Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson 1 up
P. P. J. Wodehouse 1 up
Captain J. Dewar 1 up
G. C. Moxon 1 up
R. M. Austin 1 up
W. D. Kraft 2 down.

Silver.

Under date of the 28th inst. Messrs. Setna and Company report:—There were varied fluctuations during the current year as under:—

	Lowest.	Highest.
January	26 1/2	27 1/2
February	26 13/16	27 1/2
March	26 13/16	28 15/16
April	28 15/16	34 1/2
May	32 1/2	37
June	30 1/16	32 1/2
July	28 1/2	31
August	30 1/2	32
September	32	32 15/16
October	32 1/2	34 1/2
November	32 1/2	35 1/2
December	26 13/16	35 1/2

SAKURA BEER



SOLE AGENTS:
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TEL 468
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NOTICES.

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

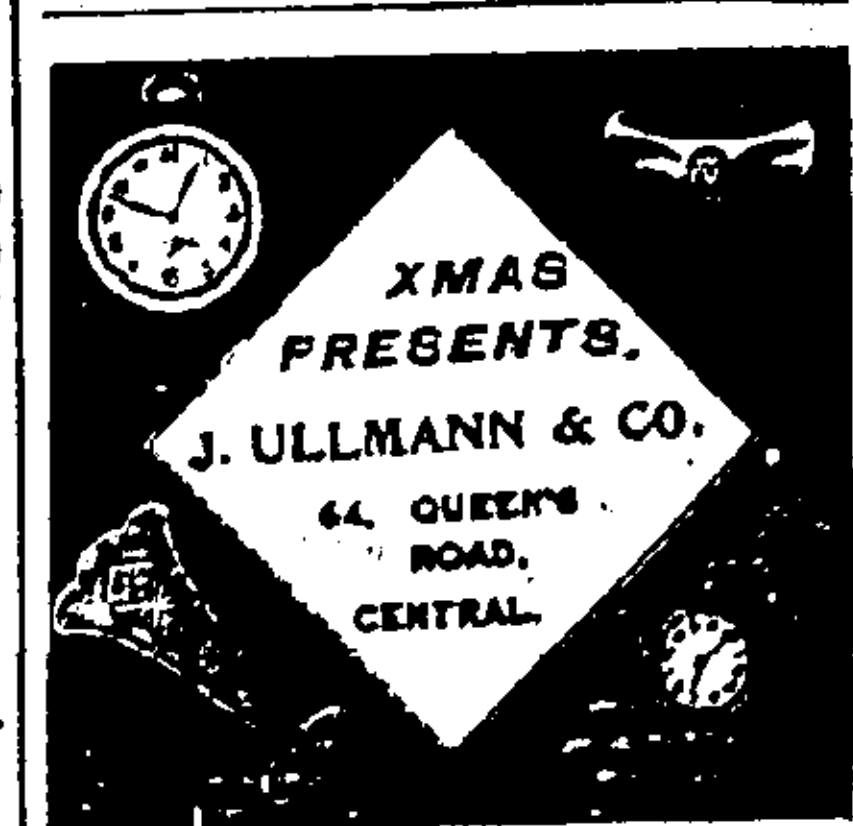
THE Public are hereby notified that from WEDNESDAY the 27th December until further notice EUROPEAN VACCINATORS will be stationed between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the following places:

- (1) The vacant lot behind the New Post Office, Entrance from Praya.
- (2) Government Villa No. 80 The Peak.

Europeans are particularly requested to see that all their Chinese employees are vaccinated.

No charge will be made for any Vaccination.

D. W. TRATMAN,
Head of Sanitary Department,
Hongkong, 23rd December, 1916.



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with rheumatism? Then these words are your salvation. Perhaps you have been told that you cannot be cured. There are thousands who have been told that they are. They tried. LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM rubbed on to the aching parts, the swelling, the twitching, the up and down and limbo. It stopped the pain. A few more applications and they drew daily better until a complete cure was effected. LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM cures at all times. It is never too late to begin. Sold at 1s per bottle. Of all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout India. Sold at 1s per bottle. Agents for Hongkong. Messrs. A. G. WATSON & Co., Ltd.

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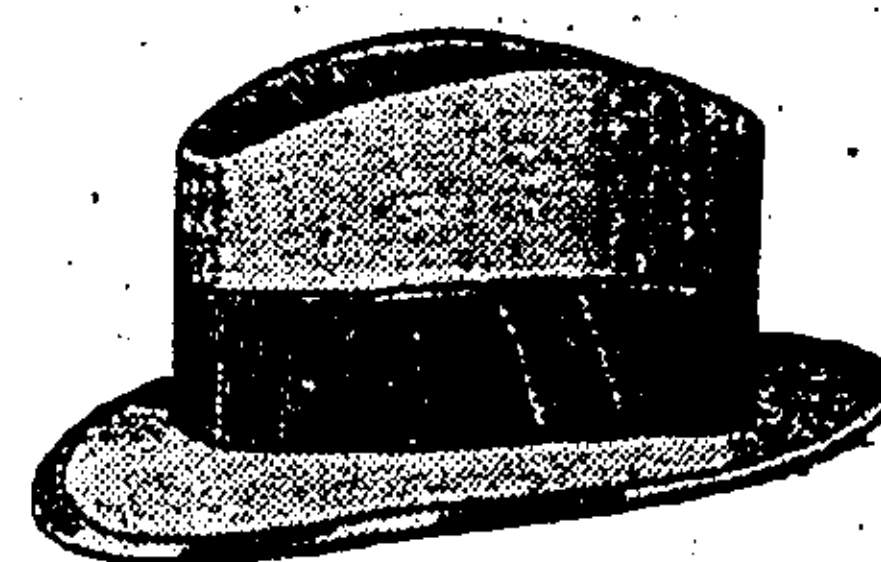
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AND VELOUR.

Caps in
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AND ALPACAS.



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No. 1 Hamper

1 bottle	Moet & Chandon Champagne	Quart
1 "	D.O.M.	Pint
1 "	Blackberry Brandy	Quart
1 "	Martell's XXX Brandy	"
2 "	King George IV Whisky	"
1 "	Super Tawny Port	"
2 "	St. Julien Claret	"
1 "	Old Brown Sherry	"
1 "	Old Tom Gin	"
1 phial	Pomeranzan Bitters	"

No. 2 Hamper

1 bottle	Victor Clicquot Champagne	Quart
1 "	Martell's XXX Brandy	"
2 "	Perfection Whisky	"
2 "	Rich Old Port	"
2 "	St. Julien Claret	"
1 "	Vino de Pasto Sherry	"
1 "	Peppermint G. F. small	"
1 "	D.O.M. small	"
1 "	Old Tom Gin	"
1 phial	Pomeranzan Bitters	"

No. 3 Hamper

1 bottle	Burgundy	Quart
1 "	Peppermint small	"
1 "	D.O.M.	"
2 "	Rich Old Port	"
2 "	Perfection Whisky	"
1 "	20 years Old Brandy	"
1 "	Amontillado Sherry	"
2 "	Medoc Claret	"
1 "	Old Tom Gin	"
1 phial	Pomeranzan Bitters	"

Hampers of all descriptions made up to suit Customers' requirements.

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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

C. N. C.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamers.	To Sail.
SHANGHAI.....	Yingchow	30th Dec. at 4 night
H'OW, P'HOI & H'PHONG	Suehsiang	1st Jan. at 10 a.m.
SHANGHAI.....	Chean	2nd Jan. at 4 p.m.
MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO	Chinhua	3rd Jan. at noon
SHANGHAI.....	Sinkang	4th Jan. at 4 p.m.

DIRECT SAILINGS TO WEST RIVER, Twice Weekly.

S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SANU."

MANILA LINE.—Twin Screw Steamers "Chinhua," "Taming," and "Teau." Excellent saloon accommodation amidships; electric fans fitted; extra staterooms on deck aft on "Taming" & "Teau."

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAILS, AND CARGO.

S.S. "Anhui," "Chean," "Luckow," "Yingchow," "Shantung," and "Sinkang," with excellent accommodation, electric light and fans in Saloon and State-rooms, maintain a regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, leaving Hongkong for Shanghai direct every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, taking cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Wojsung.

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Telephone No. 36.
Hongkong Dec. 29, 1916.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Regular Fortnightly Service between
JAVA CHINA and JAPA

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Tjitaroem *	JAVA	in port	30th Dec.	SHANGHAI
Tjillwong *	JAVA & MAKASSAR	in port	1 st Jan.	KOBE

* Wireless Telegraphy.

"The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo, taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia."

For particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to the
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STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.**

MAIL SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA.
(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT NOTICE.)

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St. Albans	6th Jan.	27th Jan. at 11 a.m.
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The above Steamers are fitted with Refrigerating Machinery, and

ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice, Fresh Provisions, etc., and are lighted throughout with Electricity. All State-Rooms have Electric Fans. A duly qualified Doctor and Stewards are carried.

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good accommodation for first Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in state-rooms and Saloon and Excellent Cuisine.
FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHEW AND RETURN.

Steamships. Captain Leaving.
Haihong... | J. W. Evans ... | WED., 3rd Jan. at 11 a.m.

FOR SWATOW.

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For Freight and Passage, apply to
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General Managers.

INDO-CHINA STEAM
NAVIGATION CO. LTD

(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration).

For	Steamship	On
MANILA	Loongsang*	Sat., 30th Dec. at 3 p.m.
MOBILE	Kumang	Sun., 31st Dec. at 11 a.m.

MOJI & ROBE	Kumsang	Sun.,	31st.	Dec.	at d'night
SHANGHAI	Choy sangt	Sun.,	31st.	Dec.	at d'light
SHANGHAI	Yusangt	Sun.,	31st.	Dec.	at d'light
HAIPHONG de Heilow	Taksang	Sun.,	31st.	Dec.	at 2 o'clock

HAIPHONG VIA HONGKONG	Tues.	3rd Jan. at 11 a.m.
S'PORE, Pang & Coutta	Wed.	3rd Jan. at noon
MANILA	Sat.	6th Jan. at 3 p.m.
SANDAKAN	Tues.	9th Jan. at noon

S'PORE, Pang & Oenta Sulsang	Wed.,	16th Jan. at	noon
SANDAKAN.....Mausangt	Sat.,	13th Jan. at	noon

Return Tours to Japan.

The steamers Kutsang, Namsang, Laisang and Fooksang, leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Japan, returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong. Time occupied 20 days.

This service is supplemented by the Yatsing and Kumsan leaving Hongkong at regular intervals for Yokohama, Kobe and Moji and returning thence direct to Hongkong. Time occupied 16 days.

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A duly qualified surgeon is also carried.

* Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.
† Taking Cargo on Through Bills of Lading to Yangtze

3. Taking cargo on Through Bills of Lading to Kudat, Larut, Data, Simporea, Tawa, Usukan, Jassalon and Lahnan.

All European Pass-ports leaving the Colony for Straits Settlements are required to produce on arrival at destination passport

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Shanghai Dec. 23.—Whenever trade is dull in any market there are people who can at once give an explanation, and the common explanation this week is that Germany's peace proposals are the cause of this week's dullness. Prices of things went up with the advent of the war, and they have kept rising, and now that peace is to come, prices must go down with a slump—that is according to the Chinese way of thinking as reflected in the market talk, which has it that the Chinese are holding back as they think the war is about to end. The truth of the matter probably is that the Chinese do not think at all about the question of peace in Europe and that they have no more understanding of the situation than the Germans. The cause of this week's dullness is not difficult to see, and in that respect this season differs from no other season. Chinese New Year is not far off and as this week's piece goods auctions have to be settled for before the Chinese New Year the dealers naturally have made as few purchases as possible. At next week's auction, which does not have to be paid for until after their New Year, things will be different, and it may be predicted that prices will advance next week as a consequence. Money is very much easier now.—Kueeping.—At this opening auction there was less speculative buying and the market was not so strong. Bidding started about five mace lower than last week and the sale dragged. Except heavy shirtings and velvets, prices were a few candarees down all round. Northern markets were the best buyers. Clearances are reported good.—Ewo.—At this smaller sale of Wednesday there was little change as compared with last week; some lines were up slightly, others down, but steady on the whole. Deliveries unsatisfactory.—Yuenfong.—Prices here were steady with a fair demand, but the market was a colourless one with no special features. The only advance was the slight one in heavy greys. There was some good buying from Chinkiang.

Human-Hair Trade in Hongkong.

Consul-General George E. Anderson, Hongkong, writes: The trade in human hair in the Far East has become so depressed that hair experts in Hongkong predict the practical extinction of the trade within a short time. The demand for most grades of hair is so weak and the supply of extra grades at present prices so small that most of the smaller factories in Hongkong for cleaning, sorting and preparing the hair have been closed, or are being closed. Some of the establishments have been operated at a loss pending a readjustment of the trade, but the prospects at present are so unfavourable that the industry will not long survive present conditions. The trade in human hair out of Hongkong reached its heights in 1910, when the United States took hair to the value of \$695,137 direct, in addition to a large amount; probably as much more, that went by way of Europe. At that time the product was among the chief items of the colony's export trade. The preparation of the hair in various stages, became one of the leading industries and a large number of factories were established for the purpose, most of them being small concerns which cleaned hair on a commission basis or disposed of their product to middlemen, who collected it in large quantities for export. Gradually changing styles in hair-dressing in the United States and Europe led to a falling off in the strong demand for the better grade hair, and export trade changed accordingly. New York has continued to take nearly all the long lengths of assorted hair. The demand in Europe changed to a demand for short lengths, stubbs, combings, and waste, which were used for mattress-making and similar purposes. With the advent of the war this European demand has fallen away, and at the same time the demand for the long grades of hair in the United States has changed. The general demand for hair has been so weak that Chinese brokers have given little attention to it, and the supply of hair has fallen off accordingly. Unless there is soon a revival of the trade, the organization of collectors, workmen, and brokers on which it depends in Hongkong will be lost and a subsequent revival of the trade will be difficult.

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ROYAL PACKET NAVIGATION CO.
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Next Sailing from Hongkong: December 29, 1916.

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14,000 tons each.

Hongkong to San Francisco,
via Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama and HONOLULU.

THE SUNSHINE BELT.

The most Comfortable Route to America and Europe.

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S.S. "VENEZUELA"	March 1, 1917.
S.S. "ECUADOR"	March 28.
S.S. "COLOMBIA"	April 23.

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London via Ports	Novara	P. & O.	29, Dec.
Liverpool via Ports	Euryphus	B. & S.	31, Dec.
Genoa	Meridore	J. M. Co.	Dec.
London via Ports	Kashima M.	N. Y. K.	4, Jan.
London via Ports	Pelem	B. & S.	5, Jan.
London via Ports	C. of Madras	B. L.	5, Jan.
London via Ports	Teucer	B. & S.	10, Jan.
London via Ports	Somali	P. & O.	17, Jan.
Liverpool via Ports	Tydeus	B. & S.	20, Jan.
London via Ports	Phemius	B. & B.	28, Jan.

NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO AND CANADA.

San Francisco via Japan	Ecuador	P. M. S. S.	3, Jan.
Victoria B.C. via Japan	Shidzuoka M.	N. Y. K.	3, Jan.
San Francisco via Japan	Nippon M.	T. K. K.	4, Jan.
South American Ports	Kiyo M.	T. K. K.	9, Jan.
Vancouver via Japan	E. of Japan	C. P. O. S.	10, Jan.
San Francisco via Japan	Arakata	J. C. J. L.	11, Jan.
San Francisco via Japan	Shinyo M.	T. K. K.	16, Jan.
Victoria, B.C., & Seattle	Kamakura M.	N. Y. K.	23, Jan.
San Francisco via Japan	Persia M.	T. K. K.	27, Jan.
Seattle via Japan	Ixion	B. & S.	27, Jan.
San Francisco via Japan	China	C. M. S. S.	31, Jan.
Vancouver via Japan	Monteagle	C. P. O. S.	3, Feb.
New York via Panama	Toyooka M.	N. Y. K.	Early Feb.

AUSTRALIA.

Australia via Manila	Changsha	B. & S.	6, Jan.
Australia via Manila	Nikko M.	N. Y. K.	16, Jan.
Australia via Manila	St. Albans	G. L. Co.	27, Jan.
Australia via Manila	Aki M.	N. Y. K.	13, Feb.

SINGAPORE, INDIA, COAST PORTS AND JAPAN.

Belawan Deli (Sumatra) via S'tow's Jacob	J.C.J. L.	29, Dec.
Manila	Loongsaig	J. M. Co.
Shanghai	Tjitaroom	J.C.J. L.
Shanghai	Yingchow	B. & S.
Kobe and Moji	Kumsang	J. M. Co.
Shanghai	Choyasang	J. M. Co.
Haiphong	Taksang	J. M. Co.
Shanghai	Yusang	J. M. Co.
Calcutta via Ports	Tosa M.	N. Y. K.
Haiphong, Pakhoi and Haiphong	Sungkiang	B. & S.
Shanghai, Moji and Kobe	Somali	P. & O.
Shanghai and Japan	Phemius	B. & S.
Kobe	Tjiliwong	J.C.J. L.
Shanghai	Chenai	B. & S.
Shanghai to Yokohama	Tenkai	B. & S.
Calcutta via Ports	Namsang	J. M. Co.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow	Haihong	D. L. Co.
Manila, Cebu and Iloilo	Chinhua	B. & S.
Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama	Nikko M.	N. Y. K.
Shanghai	Sinkiang	B. & S.
Manila	Yuensang	J. M. Co.
Shanghai, Moji and Kobe	Nyanza	P. & O.
Sandakan	Hinsang	J. M. Co.
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta	Suisang	J. M. Co.
Manila	Ixion	B. & S.
Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama	Aki M.	N. Y. K.
Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama	Atusta M.	N. Y. K.
Sandakan	Mausang	J. M. Co.
Shanghai and Japan	Antiochus	B. & S.
Shanghai	Telamon	B. & S.

CONSIGNEES

KONINKLYKE PAKET-
VAART MAATSCHAPPY
of BATAVIA, JAVA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From BELAWAN DELI,
PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"JACOB,"

having arrived from the above
ports, consignees of cargo by her
are notified that all Goods are be-
ing landed at their risk into the
hazardous and/or extra hazard-
ous Godowns of the Hongkong
and Kowloon Wharf and Godown
Company, Ltd., whence and/or
from the wharves delivery may
be obtained.

Goods not cleared by January
1st, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged
packages are to be left in the
Godowns, where they will be ex-
amined by Messrs. Goddard and
Douglas on the 2nd January
1917, at 10 a.m.

Claims against the steamer
must be presented in writing
within ten days after arrival of
steamer, otherwise they will not
be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be ef-
fected by the undersigned in any
case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be coun-
tersigned by
JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1916.

CONSIGNEES

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

s.s. "NIPPON MARU" From
SAN FRANCISCO, VIA
HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS
and SHANGHAI.

The above named Steamer hav-
ing arrived, Consignees of cargo
are hereby notified to send in
their Bills of Lading for counter-
signature, and to take immediate
delivery of Cargo from alongside.
Cargo remaining undelivered
on 25th December, at noon, will
be landed at Consignees' risk and
expense, and delivery must then
be taken from the Company's
Godown. Storage charges will
be assessed on all cargo remain-
ing undelivered on 29th Decem-
ber, at 5 p.m.

No Fire Insurance whatever
will be effected.

No Claim will be recognised
after the Goods have left the
Steamer or Godown.

All chafed and damaged cargo
will be landed into the Com-
pany's Godown, where they will
be examined on 5th January,
1917, at 10 a.m.

No Claims will be recognised if
filed after the 6th January,
1917.

T. DAIGO,
Agent.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1916.

VESSELS IN PORT.

Steamers.

Wiley, Br. s.s. 4399, Bathon, 4th Sept.— Vimero Bay, 30th Aug. Gen.—B. L.	Yabiku M. s.s. 1830, Noda, 9th Dec. —Moji, 1st Dec. Coal—M. B. K.	Guisang, Br. s.s. 1776, Simpson, 15th Dec. —Singapore, 4th Dec. Gen.—J. M.	Foehing, Br. s.s. 1424, Hay, 19th Dec. —Saigon, 11th Dec. Rice—Vimero.	Mexico M. s.s. 3548, Yavaguchi, 19th Dec.—Tacoma, 15th Nov. Gen. —O. S. K.	Wailowra, Br. s.s. 1336, Pritchard, 20th Dec.—8 ign, 16th Dec. Rice Order.	Uruman M. s.s. 1950, Ogawa, 21st Dec.—Moji, 15th Dec. Coal— M. B. G. K.	Glendaloch, Br. s.s. 1424, MacKenzie, 22nd Dec.—Singapore, 13th Dec. Gen.—China s.	Paoing, Br. s.s. 1199, Barina, 22nd Dec.—Swatow, 21st Dec.—B. & S.	Telamachus, Br. s.s. 1341, Fraser, 22d Dec.—Saigon, 13th Dec. Rice— China s.	Hinsang, Br. s.s. 1387, Kennedy, 23rd Dec.—Sandakan, 17th Dec. Gen.— J. M. & Co.	Kirin M. s.s. 3801, Sasaki, 23rd Dec. —Singapore, 16th Dec. Gen.—N. Y. K.	Kueichow, Br. s.s. 1450, Martin, 23rd Dec.—Saigon, 17th Dec. Rice— China s.	Kumsang, Br. s.s. 2077, Wheeler, 23rd Dec.—Singapore, 16th Dec. Gen. —J. M. & Co.	Nippon M. s.s. 3000, Mali, 23rd Dec.—San Francisco, 25th Nov. Gen.—T. K. K.	Brinkman, Br. s.s. 2444, Proctor, 24th Dec.—Saigon, 19th Dec. Coal—Order.	Chai Tak, Amoy, G. Gilmore, 24th Dec. —Saigon, 17th Dec. Gen.—Order.	Laertes, Br. s.s. 1340, Jentyna, 24th Dec. —Saigon, 18th Dec. Gen.—China s.	Pakhoi, Br. s.s. 1210, Tucker, 24th Dec. —Saigon, 18th Dec. B. & S.	Glendaloch, Br. s.s. 6021, McGregor, 25th Dec.—Shanghai, 22nd Dec. Gen.— S. T. & Co.	Hue, Fr. s.s. 735, Cornelissen, 25th Dec. —Hollow, 24th Dec. Rice—A. R. Marty.	Kwangs, Br. s.s. 1228, Barkus, 25th Dec. —Haiphong, 21st Dec. B. & S.	J. Jacob, Br. s.s. 1378, Bauer, 25th Dec. —Singapore, 18th Dec. Gen.— J. C. J. L.	Taksang, Br. s.s. 997, Matthews, 25th Dec.—Haiphong, 21st Dec. Gen.— J. M. & Co.	Pooler, Br. s.s. 859, Miyoko, 26th Dec. —Bangkok, 17th Dec. Rice—China s.	Fushiki M. s.s. 1853, Fujise, 26th Dec.—Kobe, 24th Dec. Coal—M. B. K.	Loongsaig, Br. s.s. 1095, Leak, 26th Dec.—Manila, 23rd Dec. Gen.—J. M. & Co.	Mikaga M. s.s. 838, Taramaka, 26th Dec.—Bangkok, 17th Dec. Rice—China s.	Mandarin M. s.s. 1466, Ishida, 26th Dec.—Moji, 21st Dec. Coal—M. B. K.	Shirata, Br. s.s. 3400, Terry, 26th Dec. —Moji, 21st Dec. Coal—D. S. & Co.	Shaoheing, Br. s.s. 1570, Hobbs, 26th Dec.—Saigon, 16th Dec. Rice— B. & S.	Shidzuoka M. s.s. 26th Dec. Gen.—Y. K.	Shinyo M. s.s. 1145, Nakamura, 26th Dec.—Wakamatsu, 24th Dec. Coal—M. B. K.	Tjitaroom, Br. s.s. 3566, Oldenburger, 26th Dec.—Bourabaya, 1st Dec. Gen.— J. C. J. L.	Toris M. s.s. 1211, Sato, 26th Dec. —Wakamatsu, 20th Dec. Coal— M. B. K.	Wada M. s.s. 2018, Mizuno, 26th Dec.—Freemantle, 25th Dec. Sandal- wood—Gilmann & Co.	Cavanah, Br. s.s. 900, Hudson, 27th Dec. —Bentley, 24th Dec. Gen.—Lapicque & Co.	Halvard, Nor. s.s. 1065, Beck, 27th Dec. —Saigon, 16th Dec. Gen.—B. & S.	Hansat, Amoy, s.s. 2078, Lennor, 27th Dec.—Saigon, 20th Dec. Rice— China s.	Protestant, Br. s.s. 6118, Braithwaite, 27th Dec.—Manila, 25th Dec. Gen.— B. & S.	Tamsui, Br. s.s. 928, McCulloch, 27th Dec. —Swatow, 26th Dec. Gen.—B. & S.	Yodo, Br. s.s. 1068, Harimoto, 27th Dec.—Wakamatsu, 20th Dec. Coal— Order.	Yingchow, Br. s.s. 1216, Gibbs, 27th Dec. —Shanghai, 24th Dec. Gen.—B. & S.	Halyang, Br. s.s. 1243, Stewart, 28th Dec.—Saigon, 23rd Dec. Rice— China s.	Kishio M. s.s. 1998, Kubota, 28th Dec.—Moji, 21st Dec. Coal—M. B. K.
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THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.
Just arrived, Large Shipments of
Choice Hams.

VESSELS DUE.

Agents.	Vessel's Name.	Tonnage.	Date Due.	From.
B. & S.	Euryphus	5,691	Dec. 30	Liverpool
B. & S.	Pelem	7,441	Dec. 30	Milke
P. & O.	Nyanza	9,021	Dec. 31	Bombay
B. & S.	Ningchow	6,699	Jan. 1	Singapore
B. & S.	Phemius		Jan. 1	London
P. & O.	Somali		Jan. 1	Australia
B. & S.	Changsha	4,929	Jan. 2	Liverpool
B. & S.	Teenai	10,220	Jan. 5	Seattle
B. & S.	Ixion		Jan. 6	Australia
G. L. & Co.	St. Albans		Jan. 11	Kobe
P. & O.	Somali		Jan. 14	Bombay
P. & O.	Malta		Jan. 15	Liverpool
B. & S.	Antiochus	9,038	Jan. 19	Manila
B. & S.	Telamon	4,509	Jan. 20	San Francisco
P. M. S. S.	China		Jan. 23	Liverpool
B. & S.	Euryades	5,713	Jan. 25	Kobe
P. & O.	Nyanza		Jan. 28	London
P. & O.	Namur		Jan. 31	Seattle
B. & S.	Talhybius		Feb. 3	Liverpool
B. & S.	Hyson	6,607		

NOTICE.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

HEAD OFFICE... NEW YORK.

Branches and Agencies in all
parts of the commercial world.

BANKERS.
FORWARDERS.
TOURIST AGENTS.

AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES—
the best form in which to carry travel funds.

13, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, TEL. NO. 2089.

CONSIGNEES

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. ECUADOR.

From SAN FRANCISCO via
HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS,
SHANGHAI and MANILA.

The above-mentioned vessel
having arrived Consignees of
Cargo are hereby notified to send
in their Bills of Lading for
counter-signature, and to take
immediate delivery of Cargo from
alongside.

Cargo remaining undelivered
on Saturday December 30th, 1916,
at noon, will be landed at Con-
signees, risk and expense and
delivery must then be taken from
the Company's Godown at West
Point.

Cargo remaining in Godown
on Saturday, December 30th,
5 p.m. will be subject to land-
ing charges and if undelivered on
Thursday, January 4th, 1917, at
5 p.m. will be subject to both
landing and storage charges.

No Fire Insurance whatever
will be effected.

No claims will be recognized
after the Goods have left the
Godown.

All chafed and otherwise dam-
aged cargo will be landed into the
Company's Godown at West Point
where they will be examined on
January 4th, at 10 a.m.

No claims will be recognised if
filed after January 27th, 1917.

R. C. MORTON,

General Agent.

MOVEMENTS OF
STEAMERS.

AMERICAN MAIL.

The Pacific Mail Co.'s "COLOMBIA"
will leave San Francisco for Hongkong
on March 10, via Honolulu and Japan
Ports.

The China Mail s.s. Co.'s steamer
CHINA sailed from San Francisco on
Saturday, December 23, 1916, and is ex-
pected to arrive Hongkong on or about
20th January, 1917.

ENGLISH MAIL.

The P. & O. s.s. SOMALI left Singa-
pore for this Port on the 26th inst.,
at a.m. with the Outward English Mail
and is due here on the 1st January, at
about daylight.

The P. & O. Homeward Mail Steamer
MONGOLIA with the Hongkong Mail
of the 17th ultimo, arrived at Marseilles
on Thursday, the 21st inst.

CANADIAN MAIL.

The C. P. O. S. s.s. EMPRESS OF
JAPAN is due to arrive at Yokohama
on Friday, Dec. 29, at daylight.

TIDE TABLE.

From 27th Dec. to 2nd Jan., 1916.

Day of Week.	Day of Month.	High Water			Low Water		
		Mean Time.	h.	m.	Mean Time.	h.	m.
Wed.	27	0	78	4.4	5	34	34
Thur.	28	10	40	5.5	6	35	35
Fri.	29	11	30	7.0	7	36	36
Sat.	30	0	0	8.1	8	37	37
Sun.	31	1	57	9.2	9	38	38
Mon.	1	2	50	10.3	10	39	39
Tues.	2	3	42	11.4	11	40	40

"THE MAGIC BAG."

A Local Lady's Work Appreciated.

Mrs. A. H. Milroy, who has done such excellent work in collecting funds with which she provides for men at the Front, has received the following letter from the *Weekly Dispatch*, to whose Tobacco Fund all her contributions have been sent:

Carmelite House,
London, E.C.,
November 23, 1916.

Madam,—Once again it is our privilege and pleasure to acknowledge receipt of £20 from that "Magic Bag" of yours, which has been the means of carrying some little comfort and happiness to so many of our men.

This time, we are, as you wish, dividing the money between the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers and the King's Own Scottish Borderers.

Again thanking you for your continued interest in our work.

Yours faithfully,
"WEEKLY DISPATCH"
(J. J. J. Carr)

Accompanying the letter is a printed appeal for further support to the Fund, bearing illustrations showing how our men in the trenches appreciate the cigarettes sent them.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

Notifications and Parades.

Corps Orders issued to-day by Lieut-Colonel A. Chapman, V.D., state:—

Resigned.

No. 1902 Pte. G. Meadows is permitted to resign from 31.12.16.

Leave.

No. 1903 Spr. A. W. Smith is granted 6 months' leave from 1.1.17.

No. 1420 LcPl. P. Mathieson is granted 6 months' leave from 1.1.17.

No. 1715 Spr. B. Lillie is granted 6 months' leave from 27.12.16.

No. 1911 Pte. W.P.C. Trafford granted 14 days' leave from 19.12.16.

No. 1971 Spr. D. W. Manton granted 12 days' leave from 28.12.16.

No. 1834 Spr. C. Stafford granted 10 days' leave from 29.12.16.

Transferred.

No. 1692 Pte. O. E. Tavares, Right Section M.G. Co., is transferred to H.K.P. Reserve from this date.

No. 1218 Gr. A. Forbes, Artillery Battery, is transferred to Signalling Section from this date.

No. 2022 Gr. A. E. Golding, Artillery Battery, is transferred to Belchers 6" Section from this date.

Parades.

Tuesday 2nd January, 1917:—7.30 a.m., Belchers 6" Section at Belchers Battery. 5.15 p.m., Stretcher Bearer Section at Headquarters; Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables. 5.30 p.m., Signalling Section at Headquarters.

Wednesday, 3rd January:—7.30 a.m., Belchers 6" Section at Belchers Battery. 5.15 p.m., Engineer Company (Taikoo Section only) section drill at Taikoo Dock; Artillery Battery platoon drill at Headquarters.

Thursday, 4th January:—7.30 a.m., Belchers 6" Section at Belchers Battery. 5.30 p.m., Signalling Section at R. A. Theatre.

Friday 5th January:—7.30 a.m., Belchers 6" Section at Belchers Battery. 5.15 p.m., Recruits of all units at Headquarters. Corp'l. Grimes will attend.

Detail.

On duty 7th January, Scouts Company; 8th, Civil Service Co.; 9th, Artillery Battery; 10th, Belchers 6" Section; 11th, Centre Section M.G. Co.; 12th, Right Section M.G. Co.; 13th, Scouts Co. Orderly Officer from 7th to 13th January, 2nd Lieut. Hagarly.

FRANCE AND THE WAR.

National Economy Council.

Paris, Nov. 15.—A National Council of Economy is shortly to be appointed, the chairman of which will probably be M. Fallieres, the former President of the Republic. The Council will in the widest sense be representative of all classes and creeds, and will deal with the entire question of the economies that can and must be realized by the nation in various articles of consumption. It is possible that one meatless day per week may be decided upon. The Butchers' Union naturally objects to the proposal and contends that it would be an exaggerated proposition, as the union asserts there is not and never has been any shortage of meat. But the general public here would accept one meatless day per week without the slightest objection. Other economies already decided upon are the closing of shops other than those selling foodstuffs at six p.m., closing of all cafes and restaurants at 9.30 instead of 10.30, which has been the legal closing-time for about eighteen months past, whereas at the beginning of the war eight p.m. was the hour imposed by the military authorities of Paris. Finally, all theatres will close on Mondays, cinemas on Tuesdays, and music halls on Wednesdays. The Paris theatre managers accept the new regulations, which come into force from next Wednesday, but point out at the same time that the closing of various establishments one day a week will entail a loss of £24,000 annually to the poor of Paris. Every Paris theatre, concert, etc., pays on every performance 10 per cent. for poor-tax to the Assistance Publique.

The new closing order to shops at six p.m. is not compulsory but conditional, and merely a measure of economy in lighting that is in fuel. Any shop may remain open after six p.m. provided it is lit neither by gas, electricity, nor paraffin; that is to say, any shop can remain open if using oil lamps other than mineral oil, candles, or acetylene light. But it is doubtful whether advantage will be taken of this. Some of the small shops may use old-fashioned lamps, and some large shops may go to the expense of putting in acetylene lighting plant, but as regards the latter, the supply of calcium carbide available outside national defence purposes is small. The new closing time for cafes and restaurants and the off-days for places of entertainment are not conditional but compulsory. Finally, the Prefect of Police lays it down absolutely that six o'clock closing time will apply strictly to all tea-shops, which will not be closed as shops selling foodstuffs; they must close at six unless, after that hour, they revert to old-time methods of lighting.

Evening Dress in Theatre.

The Secretary of Fine Arts Department's sumptuary law barring all persons in evening dress from admittance to the Opera, Opera Comique, Francaise, and Odéon is considered among theatre-goers to have rather oversteered the mark. As a matter of fact, very few men have dressed for the theatre in Paris since the war. As for ladies, they often wear at afternoon teas almost décolleté dresses which the ordinary theatre attendant may have some difficulty in distinguishing from evening dress.

Moreover, will ladies be compelled to enter theatres with hats on in order to show that they are wearing afternoon dress, and be immediately afterwards compelled to remove their hats in order to allow the spectators behind them to see the stage? This problem has not yet been solved by the Under-Secretary of State of Fine Arts. The general feeling here is that the question might more wisely have been left to individual discretion. Very few women have had the bad taste to overdress in Paris theatres since the war. The other night at the reopening of the Paris Opera winter season a certain number of ladies of neutral countenance, and perhaps some wives of war profiteers, did appear in dresses and jewellery quite worthy of the gayest peace

LEAGUE OF PEACE.

Lord Bryce on American Isolation.

London, Nov. 15.—Viscount Bryce presided yesterday afternoon at an "At Home" held under the auspices of the English Mayflower Club, at the Harcourt Room, House of Commons. The subject for discussion was "The American Situation." The American Ambassador was amongst those present.

The chairman said regarding the exercise of rights between belligerents and neutrals, such questions he felt certain might be disposed of by pacific negotiations in a way which would leave no bitterness behind, and would not impair permanent relations. What would become of the world after this war? he asked. Would all the unparalleled sufferings and calamities which this widespread war had brought to the world return after the war? Could nothing be done to prevent a recurrence of the unrepeatable calamities? There was only one plan suggested. It was that there should be formed after the war a combination of peace-loving Powers which would endeavour to take measures that would prevent a recurrence of war and guarantee, at least, a reasonable prospect of permanent peace. (Cheers.) There should be no resort to arms until the disputing Powers had referred their dispute to either arbitration or conciliation. Such a combination could not be effected with any hope of success without the co-operation of neutral Powers, and above all of the greatest of neutral Powers. As they knew, the United States had hitherto stood apart from all European questions and disputes. But isolation was no longer possible. That had been recognised by leading statesmen in America, and in particular by the two Presidential candidates. Public opinion in both parties was daily growing in its favour. In this country we were not in a position to take practical steps towards the formation of such a combination. We had first got to fight the war through. Immediately he entered through he received a letter from a leading organ of the peace-loving organisations in the United States asking him to send a message. The message he would send was:

We are as peace-loving a people as you are. We desire it as perfectly as you do, but what we want is peace and not a truce. (Cheers.) We do not believe it is possible to have real peace until Germany has been decisively defeated—so decisively as to discredit altogether the power and dominance of the military caste, which has unfortunately placed itself in command of Germany and brought Germany under its yoke, and also until the members of that caste have been taught that such detestable methods as they have resorted to in war must receive the condemnation of mankind. (Cheers.)

Professor Gilbert Murray said the very magnitude of our cause made it difficult for us to explain it for Americans to understand. In the East of America, the more instructive part, they understood our cause, but in the West and South, which gave the President his majority, it was difficult to make them understand it. But he thought that gradually a full understanding of the cause would spread. America could help or hinder us. It was the most important of those lookers-on who would ultimately register the judgment of mankind. (Cheers.)

It was this display at the Opera that shocked the Fine Arts Department and prompted its new sumptuary decree. The immediate results, so far as the dress-making world is concerned, seems to have been that couturiers have put their brains at once to work to devise the newest things in afternoon dresses that will not be banned from the Opera as evening dresses. It is thus doubtful whether this measure, at all events, will make for economy.

Daily Telegraph.

THE SHING TAK BANK.

Liquidation Announced.

The Shing Tak Bank, in Queen's Road Central, announces in the vernacular papers that it is about to go into liquidation, and an advertisement states that all debtors to the bank must meet their obligations within ten days from yesterday on pain of being proceeded against. The closing down of this house has come as somewhat of a surprise to many of the Chinese, for its capital is reported to be from one to two lakhs.

It has been rumoured in the Colony that many native financial houses will have a difficulty in getting over the coming Chinese New Year, but a prominent local financier denies the story entirely. Business, he says, tolerably good all round, and he knows of only one bank which may fail to meet its obligations.

COAL GODOWN THEFT.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. J. B. Wood, at the Police Court this afternoon, with stealing 70 lbs. of coal, with three others not in custody, from the coal godown of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. Mr. P. W. Goldring defended.

The story, as told by Sergeant Wills, was that last night the four men entered the godown and placed a ladder against a stack of coal in close proximity to a cul-de-sac near the wall of the godown, where there were six baskets on the other side. They were seen by a watchman, who called a fellow-watchman, and chase was given, defendant being caught.

Case proceeding.

BISHOP OF LONDON.

Offer to Surrender His Residences.

"I have lived for six months in two rooms at Fulham Palace," declared the Bishop of London last month and he added that he was prepared to live where, how, and on what scale the diocese should decide.

He was presiding at the autumn session of the London Diocesan conference, held at Church House, Westminster, and he was referring to what he described as the misrepresentations which had been made in regard to his income.

"I am quite willing," he said, "that the Finance Board of the diocese shall take over the income of the bishopric, that they shall arrange for me to have a moiety, and that I shall live in some small house taken by the Finance Board, which board shall, however, keep London House (the Bishop's residence in St. James's square) and Fulham Palace for Church purposes."

Fulham Palace, said the Bishop, has been used as a retreat, whilst London House has been used for the purpose of the National Mission.

He would never, however, consent to the suggested arrangement if Fulham Palace were to cease to be in the hands of the Church, or to be secularised after 1,300 years. "That would have to be an absolute part of the bargain. It would also have to be a part of the bargain that the £1,000 a year which I give to charitable objects, and which I have promised, must be kept up, because otherwise I should be disappointing those to whom I have given my personal word."

"The other side of the matter—although it will have to be considered—is that the Bishop of London must be, somehow, placed in a position that he can have personal touch as now with all the important men of England. We shall have to consider whether that can be done by living, say, in a villa at Hampstead." (Laughter.)

The following will represent the Civil Service in their home match against Kowloon on Saturday:—E. W. Hamilton, R. E. O. Bird, R. A. B. Penson, by Fane, O. F. Mason, E. W. Dawson, J. W. Frank, R. O. Widdell, O. Sars, O. J. Teohi, F. Bacon and P. T. Lambie. Umpire, W. H. Woolley. Soccer, W. Fincher.

Cricket.

The big sums now flowing into the Treasury in the form of excess profits duty are, therefore, being provided almost entirely by those departments of industry that have been engaged either directly or indirectly in war operations.

WAR PROFITS TAX.

Big sums flowing into the Treasury.

The *Daily Chronicle* has made another inquiry into the working of the excess profits tax, with the object of showing that it is yielding far more than the Chancellor of the Exchequer budgeted for, and of suggesting that he has not yet reached the limit of its possibilities.

A cursory glance at the Revenue returns week by week shows clearly what an important factor in meeting our war obligations is the excess profits tax. The amounts received by the Treasury from this source every week vary considerably, but we may reasonably expect an average of between three and four millions up to the end of the Government's financial year, which would give a minimum of 110 millions sterling, or 24 millions more than the Chancellor's estimate last spring. It must not be forgotten that two years' excess profits come into this financial year, so that the 1917-1918 yield is likely to be materially reduced, unless, of course, Mr. McKenna should decide further to raise the percentage of excess profits payable to the Government.

There is still a certain amount of confusion as to the scope of this fruitful tax. Many think that the duty is only on "war" profits, that is, profits made directly from war activities. The Government took the wise course of taxing the profit of any concern in excess of a pre-war standard representing the average profits of any two-to-be selected by the taxpayer—of the three last pre-war trade years, or, alternatively, a percentage standard varying from 6 to 15 per cent. on the capital of the business as existing at the end of the last pre-war trade year. For the first accounting period after war broke out the duty payable to the Treasury was fixed at 50 per cent. of the excess profits; for the second period it was raised to 60 per cent.

These are briefly the main points in connection with the duty, but, as we shall see, there are other details which make it particularly difficult to get at the exact excess profits tax payable by any company. Estimates can only be approximate, especially as special circumstances may affect one company in a group and not another.

The collection of the tax, however, is proceeding much more smoothly than many expected, having regard to the vast sums involved, and the appeals that were bound to be lodged. It should be borne in mind that the excess profits duty is essentially a war impost. Indeed, there is a clause in the Act which makes its repeal inevitable at an early date after the conclusion of peace. This clause provides for the repayment of duty already paid should profits fall below the pre-war standard in respect of any subsequent year while the duty is in force. Obviously, therefore, it would be to the interest of the Treasury to get rid of the duty at an early date after the end of the war.

We have every reason for satisfaction with the fine trade figures published month by month. Apart from other and equally important considerations, they mean a continued steady stream of revenue to the Treasury in the form of excess profits. But we must not forget that these profits are being made by only a section of the trading community. The war has hit many people very hard indeed, and only peace can bring any appreciable amelioration. Thus, on the professional classes and those with fixed incomes the serious increase of cost of living is pressing heavily. The higher prices of commodities and higher wages bills—extra expenditure which cannot by any means be entirely passed on to the customer—have very gravely reduced the profits of catering and hotel companies. Manufacturers of articles of luxury have had either to close down or to turn their attention to operations more suited to the times.

The Stock Exchange has had a most depressing time of it, though conditions are certainly better than they were. Comparatively few firms, however, can be making much of a living even now; and the idea of a stockbroker making operations,

F.M.S. RAILWAYS.

The Increases in Fares.

The Chief Secretary of the Federated Malay States (Sir R. L. Brookes, K.C.M.G.) has issued the following statement:—

It is believed to be a recognised principle that increased facilities and low rates increase the gross revenue from passenger traffic on railways. That has hitherto been the principle on which the railways of the Federated Malay States have been conducted. It has, however, become necessary at the present time to depart from that principle.

The Federated Malay States Railways have now reached their maximum capacity for dealing with passenger traffic and overcrowding of trains is becoming evident. If the passenger traffic continued to increase the Traffic Department would be unable to cope with it. It is not considered advisable, and indeed it may be impossible, to increase the number or the size of trains. The Government has been requested to keep its demands for all railway material down to the lowest possible limits. This is a request that should be loyally complied with. In England and in other parts of His Majesty's dominions travelling facilities have been greatly curtailed, and it has been suggested that steps should be taken to effect the same object in British Malaya. Without doubt inconvenience will be caused, but it must be endured. Large orders have been sent to England for engines and rolling stock, but their delivery will be very slow until after the war. Material for repairs is equally difficult to obtain. In the meantime it is absolutely necessary to husband our resources most carefully. Goods traffic is the first consideration and the passenger traffic must suffer in consequence.

Owing to the very great increase in the cost of fuel and running expenses generally a very good case could be made out for increasing railway rates, but if this had been the only consideration the rates would not have been increased to the extent that has been decided upon. These rates have been fixed in the belief that the increase will cause a considerable diminution in the passenger traffic.

It is regrettable that circumstances should compel us to adopt such a course, but it cannot be helped. The rates for labourers and immigrant coolies have not been raised.

excess profits during the war period may be dismissed as an idle dream. The effect of the war on the building trade may be gathered from the reports of the cement companies. So serious has been the decline in the profits of the great Associated Portland Cement combine that the directors were recently not in a position to pay the preference dividend for the first time since the company's formation.

The restrictions which the Government have found it necessary to impose, in the interests of the community and in connection with the financing of our obligations abroad, have affected other sections of the trading community. Thus, the drink regulations have touched the liquor trade in which so large a capital is invested, though it must be confessed that the brewery figures have been very mixed. The sound, well-managed, concerns have been able to achieve results very different from those we were led to expect from the gloomy forebodings of the liquor trade pessimists. Lighting regulations bore severely on the electric companies, which, however, recouped themselves very largely by raising prices against the consumer. Perhaps the greatest sufferers from Government regulations were those undertakings which were affected by the official restriction of imports. These have had to struggle to keep their heads above water, and a difficult struggle it has been.

The big sums now flowing into the Treasury in the form of excess profits duty are, therefore, being provided almost entirely by those departments of industry that have been engaged either directly or indirectly in war operations.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE.

First Aid Examination.

At an examination in first aid, held recently, the following ladies were successful:—

1st Certificate, Mrs. Bowley. Medallion, Miss E. Judah, Mrs. J. W. Taylor, Miss Worsley. Bar to Medallion (4th Examination), Mrs. Gagg. Mrs. Hickling was the Hon. Lecturer to the Class, and Dr. W. V. M. Koch acted as Honorary Examiner.

ARMED ROBBERY.

A West Point Affair.

In connection with the armed robbery which took place at West Point on Wednesday, four men were charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, and a man and a woman were also charged with receiving stolen property.

The story of the affair is that six men entered the second floor of 72, Ko Shing Street, where there was only a woman staying, and, having threatened her with knives, they proceeded to ransack the place and stole jewellery and clothing to the value of \$1,105.

It was stated in Court this morning that some of the money and clothing has been recovered. A remand was ordered.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per ss. EQUADOR, from San Francisco, on Dec. 28.
Blakely Lc Col Geo McCreary Miss E. Baker W
Grundenan F. McCreary Mrs W W
Hicks Mrs W E. Nadler Mrs A Y
Harris Capt J M. Nadler Master H
Hudson E. Oles Capt F
Imachi A. Ota M
Lacey E T. Varn M H
McCreary Miss N. Ue Eijiro

PASSENGERS DEPARTED.

Per ss. NOVARA, called from Hongkong, for Europe etc, on Dec. 29.
Arnott Master S. Kavanagh B F
Browne F K. Lora Kam
Barnes A P. Leong Low-choo
Benjamin B S. Lo Ching-kuai
Brack F S. Lam Hong-kuai
Cheng Man-wei. Lancaster H De Z
Cherry W T. Mitchell W J
Carter J H. Murray E B
Chute Miss E F. Mackay T W
Daniels R H. McKenna W P
Dunman Mr & Mrs. Nichols Rev & Mrs
O C. O A
Davidson C. Fong J R
Dunlap C. Ollman Master N
Dunlop J W. Ollman Mr & Mrs J N
Elliott R G. Ollman Master J
Eumalee R. Opper B R
Faithful Mr & Mrs. Reed Mrs
F F. Reed Mrs
French Mrs. Rees-Jones D
Fox Mr & Mrs B. Swingle J F
Fu Yek-sha. Stewart Bar A D
Guest Rev & Mrs. Salmon W J
E J. Smith Dr E F
Gaulogne Miss D. Solomon J H
Galloway Mrs B O. Talati Mr and Mrs
Gordon W S. P F
Goulding Mr and Mrs. Tang Hong
Mrs V H. Tang G F
Houlbury Mr and Mrs. Taylor R
Mrs H. Talati Master R P
Hoe Lock-ki. Taya T A
Inwood C. Turner S S
Johnson J.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY, the 1st January, 1917.

By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 29th December, 1916.

MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY, the 1st January, 1917.

By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 29th December, 1916.

GENERAL SHIPPING NEWS.

HONGKONG SHARE REPORT.

BANKS.

BANKS.

R. M. S. P. Dividend.
The court of directors of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. has resolved to pay out of the current year an interim dividend for the half-year ended June 30 last at the rate of 55 per cent. per annum (less income tax) on the preference stock, and an interim dividend at the rate of 54 per cent. per annum (less income tax) on the ordinary stock, being at the same rate as last year. The dividend on the ordinary stock issued in March last will be calculated from the dates of payment of the instalments.

Revival of the Saller.
Great activity in the building of sailing ships with auxiliary motors is one of the results of war conditions. Before the war the construction of sailing ships had almost entirely ceased, even in France, Norway, and the United States, the last countries which still had any large amount of sailing tonnage. At the present time there are at least thirty sailing vessels of more than 1,000 tons cargo capacity under construction in U.S. yards, several of these being for Norway and Danish account. In Denmark itself attention is being devoted to smaller craft of 500 to 800 tons. In Norway the Randolph Company, of Fævik, which has recently been considerably enlarged, is building several sailing ships of about 4,000 tons each, equipped with crude oil engines developing 200 h.p. Another Norwegian yard at Åker is going in for the building of sailing vessels, and already has several contracts on its books.—*Journal of Commerce.*

British Coal for British Ships.
The subject of restricting the supply of coal in our ports to our own ships after the war is thus dealt with in a letter to *Fairplay*.—At the close of the war the ships of Germany will be her greatest liquid asset. Should it not then be made perfectly clear that her aspirations are likely to prove fallacious? We have only to say definitely that when the war is over sailing facilities will not be afforded to any German ships—even if transferred to the flag of other countries—at any of our coaling stations, whether at home or abroad, and that no British coal will be available for their bunkers in any part of the world. No greater punishment could be inflicted on German commerce—her shipping trade to the Far East would become impossible, and would be seriously crippled in other parts of the world. In such conditions no one would purchase German ships, and she would find herself with a mercantile marine a large portion of which she could neither trade nor sell.

Remuneration of Merchant Service Officers.
An interesting discussion took place at the last meeting of the Management Committee of the Imperial Merchant Service Guild on the subject of pay of the captains of merchant ships during these times of extraordinary stress and danger, the latest terror which has been devised by the Hun being that of taking captive these in command of the ships which they succeed in sinking. The very plainspoken opinion of the Guild on this, as conveyed to the President of the Board of Trade, where it has been pointed out to him that all that is guaranteed in each case to the wives and families is £1 per week, is now under his consideration. But the point under discussion to which we refer is that, with but few exceptions, the pay of those who command our ships falls far short of what it should really be. This is a subject which for a very long time past has occupied the close attention of the Guild. It is true that very many improvements have been made, but now that the purchasing power of a sovereign is equal to 12s. only it is hoped that shipowners will, in the words of the Government Food Prices Committee, "review their paymasters," and in so doing this more warranted or deserving than the responsible officers of our merchant ships, who are doing so much in the service of their owners, whilst their services to the country, in the words of the King himself, are "magnificent."

Notice to Mariners.
Shanghai District.—Approaches to the Yangtze River.—Notice is given that on the 30th December 1916, the character of the North Biddle Light will be changed. The new illuminating apparatus will be Single Flashing, of the First Order, showing a flash every fifteen seconds. The approximate power of the flash will be 500,000 candles. In all other respects the particulars of this Light-station will remain as before. The temporary light notified in Special Notice to Mariners No. 427 will be discontinued when the new light is exhibited.

The Standard Uniform Question.
Considerable interest still centres on the subject of a standard uniform for the merchant service, says the *Journal of Commerce*. Arising out of the proceedings at the Admiralty, when a powerful deputation arranged for by Mr. Basil E. Peir, M.P., and representing the Imperial Merchant Service Guild, the Mercantile Marine Service Association, and the Marine Engineers' Association, waited upon the Fourth Sea Lord, it was forthwith decided to bring the matter before the President of the Board of Trade, to whom Mr. Peir has now addressed a letter on behalf of those concerned. It is expected that a reply will soon be forthcoming. Meantime if a deputation is agreed to the management committee of the Guild nominated the same representatives to attend as on the previous occasion at the Admiralty, that is, the chairman (Captain J. W. Grace), the vice-chairman (Capt. A. B. Toms), and the secretary (Lieut. T. W. Moore, R.N.R.).

Damage to Madras Harbour.
Madras, Nov. 24.—With reference to the damage done to the harbour by the recent cyclone, the following particulars have been supplied officially:—A great deal of damage was done in the harbour on the night of the 22nd and 23rd by the recent cyclone. So far as can be ascertained at about half past ten or eleven o'clock the great monolith block carrying the lighthouse at the end of the new north sheltering breakwater, a block weighing about 5,000 tons, was undermined and disappeared under water. Being thus deprived of its outer defences the breakwater itself was undermined or battered by the enormous waves until a couple of hundred feet of it had been completely destroyed. Also all along the sea face, on perhaps three or four hundred yards of its outer end, concrete blocks piled up for wave-breaking purposes have got dragged down and outwards. So the entire structure of the breakwater is left in a very perilous state. It will give the harbour engineers a full 2 or 2½ years' work to repair the damage done and to provide a new head for the breakwater, constructed on different principles whereby in the light of experience it may prove impregnable to any weather. No damage was done inside the harbour itself. One steamer broke her own stern lines and thought it best to go out to sea, but others remained safe inside. A few of the old wooden 10 ton lighters were sunk or damaged because their owners did not see fit, in spite of the cyclone warning, to take them into the Springhaven boat basin for shelter. All other smaller vessels took shelter inside the Springhaven basin and, including the Trust's own craft of from 100 to 900 tons, remained there in complete safety. The sheds, buildings and the railway belonging to the Trust were not injured in any way. The Trust's officials will have very anxious times between now and south-west monsoon to make the broken end of the damaged breakwater—strong enough to stand without further injury by the waves that may be expected then. Their task is all the harder because all kinds of machinery are difficult and expensive to procure just now owing to war conditions, and moreover their late block-making yard has been broken up and dispersed. It is possible that the complete repair of the damage may cost Rs 5 or Rs 6 lakhs or even more.

Shanghai Tug Case.

London, Nov. 22.—The Privy Council has given judgment in a shipping appeal from Shanghai, in which the Koochen Transportation and Tow-Boat Company, Ltd., appealed against a decision of the Supreme Court for China at Shanghai against the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Company with regard to a towing-vessel. The appellants allege a contract made between themselves as purchasers and the respondents as contractors for the construction of a seagoing towing-vessel called the Brodie Clarke, and in which they claim repayment of four instalments of purchase money which they had paid, and interest thereon. The respondents claim by counterclaim payment of the fifth and final instalment, and damages for failure to take delivery. Lord Wrenbury delivered the judgment of the Council stating that their lordships' opinion was that the plaintiff's claim to recover the four instalments paid cannot be maintained. As regards the counterclaim, the fifth instalment is payable "after satisfactory trial trip." This event has not happened. The contracted trial trip has never been held. It follows that the counterclaim fails. The order under appeal dismissed the plaintiff's claim. The appeal from so much of the order must be dismissed, and the order affirmed. It further ordered the plaintiffs to pay the fifth instalment. The appeal from this part of the order must be allowed. The plaintiffs must pay the costs of the claim. The defendants must pay the costs of the counterclaim. A set-off should be allowed. There would be no costs of the appeal.

Dutch Shipping.

Difficulties of trade in respect to shipping in the Netherlands Indies are thus dealt with in a home shipping paper.—If we are to judge by the reports which are appearing in the Dutch papers, the shipbuilding industry of Holland is threatened with a serious danger. There is a great shortage of many necessary materials the bulk of which is usually obtained from Germany. Holland is dependent upon Germany for a large part of her iron and steel, and there are hints in the German papers that if the Netherlands authorities make the importation of food into Germany more difficult than it is at present, Germany may retaliate by stopping her exports of iron and steel. Then there are also complaints regarding "the onerous conditions to which the export of ships built to foreign order is subject." Owing to these conditions—it is contended—contracts which would have come from Norwegian owners to Holland have gone to America, Sweden, and Denmark. In pre-war days Dutch shipbuilders obtained much of their supplies—especially of auxiliaries and "parts"—from Great Britain, and they were not then handicapped in the delivery of vessels built for other than home owners. Now they complain that they cannot get the materials for the construction of ships, and that orders are going past them because of the policy of their Government. Certainly Holland is in an exceedingly difficult position, and her shipbuilders deserve our professional sympathy.

Turbo-Electric Propulsion.

It may be of interest (says *Lloyd's Report*) to state that in the United Kingdom there are two vessels being built to the Society's classification in which the Ljungstrom Turbo-Electric Propelling Plant will be fitted, one a single screw vessel, in which the power will be 1,500 shaft horse power, and the second a twin screw vessel, with a total shaft horse power of 5,400. In the Ljungstrom turbine there are no stationary blades, the steam passes across two sets of blades which revolve at equal speed in opposite directions, so that the effect is similar to that which would occur with one set of blades stationary and the other set moving at twice the velocity. Each half of the turbine is directly

coupled to its own alternator, producing a three phase current of about 50 alternations per second with a voltage of about 800. The alternators of each set are electrically locked, ensuring exactly equal speed, and consequently equal power, on each rotating half of the turbine. In each vessel there will be two turbo alternator sets, so that the stoppage of one will not disable the vessel. The two alternators of each set work in parallel. They have each only one pair of poles. They supply current to two motors each having five pairs of poles, which will therefore rotate at one fifth the speed of the turbines. These motors are connected to pinions with spiral teeth which gear in the ordinary manner with a large gear wheel secured to the screw shaft. The combination of electrical and mechanical reduction gear will enable a speed of turbine of 3,600 revolutions per minute to rotate the screw at 72 revolutions per minute. The reversing of the screw is effected by the electrical motor, the steam turbines always running in one direction. Reduction of speed is effected down to about 80 per cent. of the full speed by varying the steam supply to the turbine. For slower speeds the regulation is effected by interposing resistances in the circuit.

Japanese Ships for Sale.

Quite a number of fine new Japanese cargo steamers are now being offered in the London market. Some are ready for sea; others can be delivered within the next few months. But at the prices now being asked British owners, badly as they need to replace their lost vessels, show no inclination to consider them. For splendidly-built cargo steamers of 10,000 tons deadweight, about £40 a ton, amounting to £400,000, is now being asked. Before the war, ships capable of performing precisely the same service could have been very comfortably built for £8 a ton, or £80,000. The present prices are, therefore, just five times the pre-war prices. A steamer flying the British flag could rely, if not requisitioned by the Admiralty, on earning 30s. a ton dead weight for 12 months. That is, the steamer of 10,000 tons would earn £15,000 a month. Putting expenses at £4,000 a month (they might well be more), the monthly profit would be £11,000, or say, £130,000 for the year. On the £400,000 new capital the owners would be allowed to earn 6 per cent., or £24,000, before becoming liable to excess profit taxation. That deducted from the total profit of £130,000 leaves £106,000. Of this the Government would take 60 per cent., or £63,600, in excess profit taxation, leaving £42,400. On this sum income tax at 5s. (super tax is not reckoned in the calculation) would amount to £10,600 leaving £31,800. If the owner applied the whole of this sum to depreciation, and could rely on earning the present abnormal freights for about 10 years, and was content with 6 per cent. profit, it would only be, on the basis of the figures quoted above, at the end of that period that he would be able to write down the value of the ship in his books to the pre-war cost of a similar and competing ship. Owners are, however, bound to take into account the possibility of the war ending within a year or two. If it ended a year hence they would have a vessel still representing a value of £238,000, and having to compete with ships originally costing only £80,000, and written down to figures far below that sum. If many of the large number of vessels which are now being built in Japan and neutral countries are to be acquired by British owners, it would seem that either values will have to fall or owners will have to be granted some special financial concession, such as being allowed to write down the value to "reasonable" prices before becoming liable to excess profit taxation.—*Times.*

CORRECTED TO MONDAY FRIDAY DECEMBER 29, 1916.

BENJAMIN & POTTS.
Share and General Brokers.
Princes Building.
Tel. address: Broker.

EXCHANGE.

SELLING.	
T/T China	2/4 3/4
Demand	2/4 13/16
30 d/s	2/4 3/8
60 d/s	2/5
4 m/s	2/5 1/16
T/T Shanghai	Nom.
T/T Singapore	102
T/T Japan	111 1/4
T/T India	175 3/4
Demand, India	176
T/T San Francisco	57
co & New York	
T/T Java	137 1/4
T/T Marks	Nom.
T/T France	333
Demand, Paris	333 1/4
BUYING.	
4 m/s. L/O	2/5 9/16
4 m/s. D/O	2/5 11/16
6 m/s. L/O	2/5 13/16
30 d/s. Sydney & Melbourne	2/5 13/16
30 d/s. San Francisco (local & New York)	58 1/4
4 m/s. Marks	Nom.
4 m/s. France	345
6 m/s. France	353
Demand, Germany	—
Demand, New York	57 1/4
T/T Bombay	176
T/T Calcutta	176
Demand, Calcutta	176
Demand, Manila	114
Demand, Singapore	102
On Haiphong	31 1/2 prem.
On Saigon	3 1/2 prem.
On Bangkok	64 1/4
Sovereign	825 Nom.
Gold Leaf, per oz.	502 1/2
Bar Silver, per oz.	—

DISCOUNT PER 100.

Chinese	20 cts pieces	4 1/2 dis.
Chinese	10	4 1/2 dis.
Hongkong 20 cts pieces		4 1/2 dis.
Hongkong 10		4 1/2 dis.

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

Chinese	20 cts pieces	4 1/2 dis.
Chinese	10	4 1/2 dis.
Hongkong 20 cts pieces		4 1/2 dis.
Hongkong 10		4 1/2 dis.

THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.

Cannot be beaten. If Equalled for Bread, Cakes, Confectionery and meals with Wines & Liquors.

R.—SELLERS; SA.—SALES;
B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.

MARINE INSURANCES.

Cantons n. \$390
North China n. 1.150
Unions s. \$920
Yangtzes n. ex 75 \$235

FIRE INSURANCES.

China Fires n. \$155
H. K. Fires n. \$375

SHIPPING.

Douglases n. \$1.64
Steamboats s. \$20
Indos (Def.) s. \$138
Indos (Pref.) n. \$46
Shells n. 106/-
Ferries s. \$58

REFINERIES.

Sugars s. \$127 1/2
Malabons n. \$57

MINING.

Kallians n. 56/-
Langkats s. 1.22
Raubas n. \$2.40
Tronohs n. \$2/-
Urais n. \$2/3

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &C.

H. K. Wharves s. \$851
Kowloon Docks s. \$129
Shai Docks s. 1.90

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.

Centrals s. \$101
H. K. Hotels s. \$115
Land Invest. n. \$95
H. K. Estates s. \$6.80
K'loon Lands s. \$35
Shai Lands n. 1.81
West Points s. \$84

COTTON MILLS.

Ewos n. 1.155
Kung Yiks n. 1.141
Shai Cottons n. 1.117
Yangtzeppos n. 1.51

MISCELLANEOUS.

Borneos n. \$84
China Light & P. b. \$8.75
Providents b. \$8.80
Dairy Farms n. \$261
Green Islands s. \$12
H. K. Electrics s. \$53
H. K. Ice Co. n. \$160
Ropes n. \$344
Steel Foundries n. \$934
Trams, Low Level s. \$10
Trams, Peak, old n. \$1
Trams, Peak, new n. \$31
Laundries n. \$17.00
U. Waterboats n. \$81
Watsons b. \$81
Wm. Powells b. \$8.25
Morning Posts n. \$29

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30 d/s 2/4 3/8
60 d/s 2/5
4 m/s 2/5 1/16
T/T Shanghai Nom.
T/T Singapore 102
T/T Japan 111 1/4
T/T India 175 3/4
Demand, India 176
T/T San Francisco 57
co & New York
T/T Java 137 1/4
T/T Marks Nom.
T/T France 333
Demand, Paris 333 1/4

BUYING.

4 m/s. L/O 2/5 9/16
4 m/s. D/O 2/5 11/16
6 m/s. L/O 2/5 13/16
30 d/s. Sydney & Melbourne 2/5 13/16
30 d/s. San Francisco (local & New York) 58 1/4
4 m/s. Marks Nom.
4 m/s. France 345
6 m/s. France 353
Demand, Germany —
Demand, New York 57 1/4
T/T Bombay 176
T/T Calcutta 176
Demand, Calcutta 176
Demand, Manila 114
Demand, Singapore 102
On Haiphong 31 1/2 prem.
On Saigon 3 1/2 prem.
On Bangkok 64 1/4
Sovereign 825 Nom.
Gold Leaf, per oz. 502 1/2
Bar Silver, per oz. —

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Chinese 10 4 1/2 dis.
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BANK OF CANTON LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE HONGKONG

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking Business Transacted.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and FIXED DEPOSITS Received.

INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 Months 3% per annum

For 6 Months 4% per annum

For 12 Months 4 1/2% per annum

LOOK POON SHAN, Chief Manager.

NOTICE.

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAY CO LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS

1.00 A.M. to 1.00 P.M. Every 15 Min.

1.00 P.M. to 1.00 A.M. Every 15 Min.

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NOTICES.

"RECESS"

HIGH GRADE VIRGINIA CIGARETTES.



MANUFACTURED BY

WESTMINSTER TOBACCO CO. LD.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

TIFFIN.

NO PUNCH TICKET.

Price \$1.00

12.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

- HOPS D'OEUVRES**
1. Turtle Soup
 2. Consomme au Celery
 3. Fried Schnapper
 4. Baked Fish
 5. Chicken, Cutlets
 6. Ox Kidney Saute
 7. Roast Pigeon on toast
 8. Roast Sirloin of Beef and Horseradish
 9. Roast Saddle of Mutton
 10. Roast Turkey and Cranberry Sauce
 11. Roast Capon
 12. Roast Goose and Apple Sauce
 13. Boiled Potatoes
 14. Roast Potatoes
 15. Petit Pois
 16. French Beans
 17. Plum Pudding & Brandy Sauce
 18. Apple Pie
 19. Mince Tart
 20. Dutch Cheese
 21. Roquefort Cheese
 22. Mixed Salads
- VEGETABLES**
- SWEETS**
- FRUITS**
- Oranges, Apples, Bananas, Walnuts, Almonds
- SALADS**
- Tea and Coffee

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

DINNER.

(EVENING)

NO PUNCH TICKET.

Price \$1.00

7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

- HOPS D'OEUVRES**
1. Cauliflower Soup
 2. Princes Soup
 3. Fried Soles
 4. Boiled Fish and Parsley Sauce
 5. Forced Chicken
 6. Stewed Sweetbread with Tomatoes
 7. Roast Sirloin of Beef
 8. Roast Saddle of Mutton
 9. Roast Turkey and Cranberry Sauce
 10. Roast Goose and Apple Sauce
 11. Roast Capon
 12. Boiled Potatoes
 13. Roast Potatoes
 14. Petit Pois
 15. French Beans
 16. Plum Pudding & Brandy Sauce
 17. Mince Tart
 18. Apple Pie
 19. Cream Cheese
 20. Roquefort Cheese
 21. Mixed Salads
- VEGETABLES**
- SWEETS**
- FRUITS**
- Oranges, Apples, Bananas, Walnuts, Almonds
- SALADS**
- Tea and Coffee

To Facilitate Service and Prevent Confusion, please order by Number only.

We Sell only the very best Brands of Wines, Ales and Liqueurs

WISHING YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Alexandra Cafe.

ROBT. HOWARD, Sole Proprietor.

BANK HOLIDAY.

IN ACCORDANCE with Ordinance No. 5 of 1917, the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of Public Business on MONDAY, the 1st January, 1918.

SIXCON & CO.

Established A.D. 1880.
IRON, STEEL, METAL and HARDWARE MERCHANTS. Wholesale and Retail. Steamboilers, Pigs Iron and Foundry Cast Iron. General Storekeepers and Shipchandlers. Nos. 28 and 29, King's Road, Hong Kong.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

Established 1836.
Incorporated in Great Britain.
Total Assets exceed £4,000,000.

Fire, Life, Marine, Motor Car, Plate Glass, Fidelity Guarantee & Loss of Profits Insurance.

NOTICE is hereby given that as from 1st January 1917 the Company's offices will be removed to No. 4, Des Voeux Road, Central (next to the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation).
JOHN de B. LANCASTER,
Acting Local Manager.
Hong Kong 27th December 1917.

POST OFFICE.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY.

The Post Office will be open on Monday the 1st January from 8 to 9 a.m. There will be one collection and one delivery of Ordinary Correspondence on Sunday and a delivery of Registered Correspondence at 9 a.m. The Money Order Office will be entirely closed.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Liberia and Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Morocco cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

Ships in communication with Cape D'Agulhas Radio Telegraph Station:-

TJIBONDARI KAMO MARU
TJIMANOKE

MAILS DUE.

Shanghai (London 1st Dec. via Siberia) Per CHENAN, 30th Dec.
Berber (English Mail) Per SOMALI, 1st Jan.

REGISTERED AND PARCEL MAILS close 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated.

MAILS CLOSE TO-DAY.

Hong Kong & Bangkok Per FOOLEY, 29th Dec. 5 p.m.
Hong Kong Per SHINYU M., 29th Dec. 5 p.m.
For: Bayard Per SUKAI, 29th Dec. 5 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Cholon, Welhaiwai & Dairen Per SEAWHISHING, 30th Dec. 7 a.m.

Shanghai & N. China Per YINGCHOW, 30th Dec. 9 a.m.
Haiphong Per HUE, 30th Dec. 11 a.m.
Saigon Per KUMCHOW, 30th Dec. 11 a.m.

Swatow Per JACOB, 30th Dec. 11 a.m.
Philippines Isl. Per LOONGSANG, 30th Dec. 2 p.m.

Japan via Moji Per HOKUTO MARU, 30th Dec. 4 p.m.

Chiangmai Per KENKON MARU, 30th Dec. 4 p.m.

Shanghai & N. China Per CHOYSANG, 30th Dec. 5 p.m.

Japan via Moji Per KUMSANG, 30th Dec. 5 p.m.

Holbow & Haiphong Per TAKSANG, 30th Dec. 5 p.m.

Shanghai & N. China Per YUSANG, 30th Dec. 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, 31st December.

Straits, Ceylon & India via Bombay Per MALAY M., 31st Dec. 9 a.m.

Shanghai & N. China, Japan via Moji Per SOMALI, 1st Jan. 9 a.m.

Saigon Per TELEMACHUS, 31st Dec. 2 p.m.

MONDAY, 1st January.

Holbow, Pakhoi & Haiphong Per SUNGKIANG, 1st Jan. 9 a.m.

TUESDAY, 2nd January.

Swatow, Amoy & Formosa via Tamsui & Keelung Per KAIJO MARU, 2nd Jan. 9 a.m.

Shanghai & N. China, Japan via Moji, Victoria B.C. & Seattle Per SHIDZUKA M., 2nd Jan. Registration 10.15 p.m. Letters 1 p.m.

Shanghai & N. China Per CHENAN, 2nd Dec. 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd January.

Philippines Isl. Per CHIN HUA, 3rd Jan. 10 a.m.

Shanghai & N. China, Japan via Moji, Victoria B.C. & Seattle Per SHIDZUKA M., 3rd Jan. Registration 9.15 a.m. Letters 10 a.m.

Shanghai & N. China, Japan via Moji, Victoria B.C. & Seattle Per SHIDZUKA M., 3rd Jan. Registration 9.15 a.m. Letters 10 a.m.

Swatow, Amoy & Formosa via Tamsui & Keelung Per HAIKONG, 3rd Jan. 11 a.m.

Swatow, Amoy, Formosa via Tamsui & Keelung Per SOHSHU MARU, 3rd Jan. 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, 4th January.

Shanghai & N. China, Japan via Moji, Victoria B.C. & Seattle Per SHIDZUKA M., 4th Jan. Registration 9 p.m. Letters 10 a.m.

SHIPPING NEWS.

ARRIVED.

Remador, Amer. ss. 3,435, Nelson, 28th Dec. San Francisco, Gen. P. M. S. S. Co.
Nokuto M. Jap. ss. 2,485, Suikoh, 28th Dec. Haiphong, Gen. P. M. S. S. Co.
Komegata M. Jap. ss. 2,988, Miyakoshi, 29th Dec. Singapore, 19th Dec. M. R. K.
Liangchow, Br. ss. 1,220, Owen, 29th Dec. Bangkok, 29th Dec. Rice, B. & S.
Hamaoka, Br. ss. 2,591, Liddell, 29th Dec. Moji, 24th Dec. Gen. J. M. & Co.
Takosha M. Jap. ss. 1,117, Gillepie, 29th Dec. Saigon, 23rd Dec. Rice, Order.

DEPARTED.

Dec. 27.

Chots M. for Haiphong
Yingchow for Canton
Utrecht for Tamsui via Swatow
Empress of Russia for Vancouver via Shanghai

Dec. 28.

Tjimonok for Batavia via Tamsui
Haitan for Foochow via Swatow
Shantung for Shanghai
Kamo M. for London via Singapore
Hainfung for Shanghai via Foochow
Tjimonok for Batavia via Manila
Penang M. for Bombay via Singapore
Novara for London via Manila

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.

Dec. 29.

Enkai for K. C. Wan via Macao
Wakamatsu M. for Wamatsu
Kamamatsu M. for Dairen
Shirata for Singapore
Yado M. for Itosaki
Fooler for Bangkok via Holbow
Kwargao for Haiphong via Holbow
Mawson M. for r. Mille
Shinyu M. for Hong Kong

Straits, Ceylon, Delagoa Bay, Cape Town & London Per KASHIMA MARU, 4th Jan. 11 a.m.
Shanghai & N. China, (Europe via Siberia) Per SINKIANG, 4th Jan. Registration 2.15 p.m. Letters 3 p.m.
[Shanghai Ch. P.O. Monday, 8th Jan.]

SATURDAY, 6th January.

Philippines Isl., Australia & New Zealand via Port Darwin & New Guinea via Thursday Isl. Per CHIANGSHA, 6th Jan. Registration 10.15 a.m. Letters 11 a.m.
Shanghai & N. China Per ANHUI, 6th Jan. 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 10th January.

Shanghai, N. China, Japan via Nagasaki, Victoria, Vancouver, United States, Central & South America & United Kingdom via Canada (Europe via Siberia) Per EMPRESS OF JAPAN, 10th Jan. Registration 9.45 a.m. Letters 10.30 a.m.
[Shanghai Ch. P.O. Saturday, 13th Jan.]

FRIDAY, 19th January.

Straits, Burma, Ceylon, Australia, New Zealand, Western Australia, India, Aden, Egypt & Europe. (The parcel mail will be closed on Thursday, 18th Jan. at 5 p.m.) Per SOMALI, 19th Jan. Registration 10.15 a.m. Letters 11 a.m.

THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.
Just arrived, Fresh assorted American Sweets & Figs Chocolates.

WEATHER REPORT.

On the 29th at 11.10—No returns from Japanese stations. Pressure has decreased moderately along the coast from Shanghai to Haiphong and slightly elsewhere.

The anticyclone is probably moving eastward. The monsoon will moderate along the east coast of China and over the N. China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inch. Total since January 1st, 79.86 inches, against an average of 83.13 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON TO-MORROW, District.

1. Hongkong to Cap Rock... E. winds, fresh to moderate; fair.
2. Formosa Channel... N.E. winds, strong to fresh.
3. South coast of China between H.K. and Lemoock... The same as No. 1.
4. South coast of China between Lemoock and Hainan... The same as No. 1.

China Coast Meteorological Register, December 29, a.m.

Station.	Hour.	Barometer.	Thermometer.	Humidity.	Direction.	Force.	Weather.
Vostock	6a						
Nemuro	5a						
Halimda							
Tokio							
Kobe							
Nagasaki							
Kyushu							
Oshima							
Naha							
Ishikawa							
Osaka							
Choshi							
Wharfed		30.41	24	87	n	6	6
Hankow							
Kiang							
Changsha							
Shanghai		30.31	36	94	sne	1	r
Guangzhou		30.35	40	91	n	4	o
Shanghai		30.03	50	93		0	o
Amoy		30.18	54	100	w	2	o
Swatow							
Taihoan	5a	30.02	57	91	e	4	b
Taihoan		3.04	57			0	b
Taihoan		30.02	59		sne	2	o
Koshu		29.99	64		n	2	b
Tokyo		30.04	58		n	6	o
Choshi	6a	30.15	57	75	n	2	o
H.Kong		30.02	60	77	sne	3	o
Cap Rock		3.01				6	c
Macao		30.01	59	79	sne	2	o
Wuchow							
Pakhoi							
Holbow							
Phu Lien	7a	29.89	66	94	e	4	r
Touran		29.87	68		sne	4	b
C. St. J.		29.80	72		n	4	b
Agard							
Dagupan		29.74	73	75	e	4	o
Manila		29.78	72	94	o	0	o
Luzon		29.76	75	91	sne	4	o
Surigao							
Labuan		29.59	76	91	n	6	r
RAIDO-TELEGRAM.		29.95	70		sne	6	op

T. F. CLAXTON, Director.
Hongkong Observatory, Dec. 29, 1916.

1. Barometer, reduced to 32 degrees Fahrenheit on the level of the sea in inches, tenths and hundredths.

2. Temperature, in the shade, in degrees Fahrenheit.

3. Humidity, in percentage of saturation the Humidity of air saturated with moisture being 100.

4. Direction of Wind, to two points.

5. Force of Wind, according to Beaufort Scale.

State of Weather, h. blue sky, c. detached cloud, d. drizzling rain, f. fog, g. gloomy, h. hail, i. lightning, o. overcast, p. passing showers, s. squally, r. rain, s. snow, t. thunder, v. visibility, w. dew wet.

*Lat. 22.05 N. Long. 113.05 E.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Previous Day On date On date.

Barometer 30.12 30.08 30.01

Temperature 61 60 64

Humidity 61 60 64

Wind Direction E ESE E

Force 4 3 2

Weather 0 0 0

Highest open air Temperature on the 24th 64

Lowest 58

H.K. Observatory, December 29, 1916.

T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

KISMET.

A. D. C. PRODUCTION.

on behalf of the
"STAR & CARTER FUND"
for Soldiers and Sailors totally
disabled in the War.

POSITIVELY LAST PERFORMANCE TO-MORROW NIGHT.

By special request there will be another performance on
SATURDAY, 30th inst at 7.30 p.m. Sharp
PRICES as usual.

A recherche supper at \$2 per head will be served after the performance, in the Hongkong Hotel Grill Room from 10.45, p.m.; the proceeds of which will be devoted to the Star and Carter Fund.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

FRIDAY, 29th DECEMBER, 1916.

Enormous Success of the

"MUSICAL SHIRLEYS."

The Magnificent Exclusive Film

"ON THE BRINK" (in 3 Reels.)

FEATURING MDLLE ROBINNE.

PATHE'S "BRITISH GAZETTE."

"THE GREAT WAR."

A Chaplin Comedy—

"DOUGH AND DYNAMITE."

Don't forget the "Iron Claw."

It grips You.

BIJOU THEATRE.

FROM DECEMBER 28, TO JANUARY, 2.

MISS SONIA HALANAI.

A Charming Russian Dancer, featuring for the first

time in Hongkong,

Russian Dances, Irish Jigs, and Scotch Reels.

"THE FRENCH SPY."

A splendid drama in 4 parts.

Also

Comic Films.

HONGKONG THEATRE.

(OLD LAND OFFICE BUILDING.)

27th 28th & 29th December.

16th & 17th Episodes of

"THE DIAMOND FROM THE SKY."

Also Showing Comic Films.

Look out for—New Year's day. Matinee at 4 p.m.

NOTICE.

CHAMPAGNE

SENNEVAL.



"CONNOISSEURS' CHOICE."

This wine is well bodied, delicate, delicious and unquestionably the finest Champagne. It is equal to the high priced Champagnes now on the market.

H. RUTTONJEE & SON</